

THE North-China Herald

AND
SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXI., No. 597. SHANGHAI, OCTOBER 31, 1878. PRICE, Tls. 12 7/8 AN.

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For Scrofula, Scurvy, Skin Diseases, and Sores of all kinds it is a never-failing and permanent cure.

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Cures Ulcerated Sores on the neck.

Cures Ulcerated Sore Legs.

Cures Blackheads, or Pimples on the Face.

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Cures Cancerous Ulcers.

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Clears the Blood from all impure Matter, From whatever cause arising.

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For aches or pains, contracted and stiff joints,—for coughs and colds (which latter often settle upon the chest, producing fatal consequences) let the afflicted parts be effectually rubbed with the Ointment, as salt is into meat, and a certain cure will only be a question of time and patience. 41 ff

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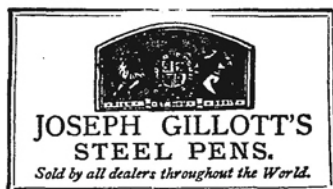
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STEEL PENS.

Sold by all dealers throughout the World.

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THE North-China Herald AND SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXI., No. 597. SHANGHAI, OCTOBER 31, 1878. PRICE, Tls. 12 7/8 AN.

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England, ...	Sept. 13	Hankow, ...	Oct. 27
San Francisco, ...	2	Yokohama, ...	15
Hongkong, ...	Oct. 25	Nagasaki, ...	16
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Latest Mail dates in England, from China.
 Hongkong, ...

Shanghai, ...

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 24th October, the wife of T. W. LAIDLER, Imperial Maritime Service, of a son.

At Shanghai, on the 28th October, the wife of Mr. EDWIN BYRNE, of a daughter.

At Shanghai, on the 29th instant, the wife of Mr. EDMUND R. HOLMES, of a daughter.

At 2, Mingbong Road, Hongkew, 14th Oct., the wife of JAMES FLETCHER, prematurely, of a son.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on the 27th instant, JOACHIM DE RAGO, aged 58 years.

At 2, Mingbong Road, Hongkew, 25th Oct., ALFRED ERNEST, infant son of James and Emma Fletcher, aged 11 days.

At Shanghai, on the 29th inst., Mr. M. R. EDWARDS, Yangtze Pilot.

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines (space *Bourgeois*) and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, payable in advance.

SUBSCRIPTIONS received, and Single Copies sold, by GEORGE STREET,

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LONDON (E.C.)

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.45 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, OCT. 31, 1878.

THE province of Szechuen has been over and over again described by both native and foreign writers as the garden of China, comparable indeed, from their accounts, with that famous garden which contained every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. Du Halde expatiates on its richness in silk, in all the useful metals, in amber, sugarcane and loadstone. It abounds, he says, in musk and in orange and lemon trees; the horses are very pretty and exceedingly swift, and the wooded valleys are filled with deer, parrots, partridges, and a sort of

hen "with wool like that of a sheep, instead of feathers, which are highly esteemed by the Chinese ladies, who keep them for their amusement." The best rhubarb comes thence, along with the various other roots so highly esteemed by physicians that they prescribe them in almost all cases. To this list we might now add opium, which is largely produced in the favoured province. In natural scenery of every description Szechuen would seem to be particularly rich, so that were its recesses easy of access they would without doubt be frequently and systematically explored by bands of foreign pleasure hunters. Under every aspect the province is most attractive, and we may expect much welcome information of a reliable character from Mr. Baber when the stores he is now laying up are placed before the public. The worst of accurate descriptions of a region which has hitherto been examined in a merely cursory way, is that it generally dispels pleasant illusions by bringing to light facts which belie the more or less ideal pictures drawn by passing travellers and professional bookmakers. We may hope, however, that Szechuen will prove an exception to this general rule, and will maintain or even increase its reputation on better acquaintance. Captain Gill, who accompanied Mr. Baker to Chung-ching, and thence, after travelling by himself or in company with Mr. Mesny, over a considerable tract of Western China, reached Rangoon via Tali-fu and Bhamo, has lately published an account of his experiences, which though disappointing by its brevity is sufficient to whet our curiosity with regard to future and fuller details. He describes the province almost with enthusiasm as "for foreigners certainly the most pleasant in the Empire." He found the people invariably polite and hospitable, and we all know how far this goes towards giving a tone to one's impressions of a country. They are, he says, mostly either traders or agriculturists which is, of course, true of all China, but their readiness to receive foreigners with kindness he ascribes to

the small number of literati to be found, and the low esteem in which this elsewhere influential class is held. Upon this point we should gladly have had some details. It is strange, if not quite incredible, that in a region rich in all natural productions a class, which would under ordinary conditions there flourish more certainly than in a region less generously endowed, should be conspicuous by its absence. But, whatever the cause, Captain Gill was delivered from the common experience of turbulent crowds set on by some mischievous member of the "gentry" to raise difficulties or insuperable obstacles in the way of the exploring foreigner. Rumours of the unpleasant questions with which Mr. Davenport and his party put to the persons who met them over the Margary affair, had we should think more to do with making Captain Gill's trip a successful one than the absence of literary men. Nor must we fail to assume in fairness natural amiability on the part of the people. But, whatever the cause, throughout his wanderings he never heard an uncivil word, and though his mere appearance inevitably excited curiosity, in some towns politeness overcame even this, so that he was able to sit writing with his door open to the public thoroughfare without being assailed or even disturbed. The officials too were uniformly agreeable, perhaps because their intercourse with foreigners and their experience of the worries which merchants and missionaries bring in their train were alike limited. The only fault Captain Gill has to find with the hospitable region that he describes, is the difficulty of getting beef, mutton and dairy produce. As soon as he crossed the boundary of the province, however, he found himself in a land "flowing with milk and butter," for the Thibetans are no whit behind the Mongols in their love for fat-tailed sheep and enormous lumps of butter consumed along with oatmeal porridge or floating in tea. There was no lack of food, but only of food of this particular kind, and this was not sufficient to impart a sombre tint to all the traveller's impressions. On the contrary he is eloquent upon the variegated scenery that everywhere met his eye—great mountains sloping down through terraced hills into vast undulating plains where, by virtue of sedulously cared-for irrigation works, the rice crop never fails. The roads are lined, the houses and temples are surrounded, and the fields are divided by fruit trees, willows, beeches and great secular yews. Elaborately carved memorial arches

and great bridges certify to the artistic tastes and engineering skill of the inhabitants, while commodious and solidly constructed dwelling houses attest their power of dealing with the practical needs of every day life.

It will be seen that a holiday could be spent far less pleasantly and hospitably than in a trip through Szechuen along Captain Gill's track. It is impossible, however, that the expedition can ever, within our life-time at least, become popular, a fact upon which intending tourists as well as the natives themselves may well be congratulated.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 13th September, arrived on Saturday, the 26th inst., by the P. & O. steamer *Gwalior*.

A mail leaves to-morrow, for Europe, by the P. & O. steamer *Nizam*.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Via Suez.)

Supplied to the "N.-C. Daily News."

Constantinople, 23rd Oct.

The Russians are advancing to the Southward of the Balkans.

The Sultan of Turkey has informed the British Ambassador at Constantinople, that he will never conclude a Russian alliance.

London, 24th Oct.

The first Lord of the Admiralty and the Secretary of State for War have started for Cyprus.

James Morton & Co., of Glasgow, have stopped payment; the liabilities are said to be £2,500,000.

We are glad to see that the Municipal Council are intent on rounding street corners and increasing the width of the streets wherever practicable. A reference to the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 21st instant, will show that the corner of the Hankow and Szechuen roads is to be rounded, and that the widening of the Hankow road between Szechuen road and the Bund is postponed for the purpose of ascertaining from the owners whether they will surrender, at the assessed value, the necessary strip of land.—The question of introducing the French Gas Company's mains into the English Settlement was also discussed, and resulted in the decision that, as it was a question of great importance to the community, the Council would prefer that it be referred to the Ratepayers.

Between fifty and sixty persons attended the meeting on Monday afternoon at the offices of the Municipal Council, to consider the Volunteer question, and Mr. A. Davenport, H.M.'s Consul, was elected to preside. Mr. Hart gave an outline of the career of each Company since 1870, explaining that No. 3 had collapsed, No. 1 had 31 members and the Mih-ho-loongs 35, whereas their complement was 60 rank and file; and the Artillery had twelve effective members, but thirty were required to work the three guns for the use of the Company. No. 2 Company had been more fortunate

than the others, and numbered 60 rank and file; but he explained that its members could not turn out to drill at a time suitable to the other Companies. A resolution was adopted recognising the necessity for a Volunteer Corps in the Settlement, and proposing that lists should lie at the Council offices for a week for the signature of persons willing to become members. The advisability of such a motion, and its probable effects on the existing Volunteer organisations, were briefly discussed. It is difficult to understand the usefulness of such a motion, seeing that the necessity for a Corps has never been questioned, and that residents have been canvassed by the officers to join the ranks and, refused. It is the system under which the Corps is worked that seems rather to be impugned, and the meeting was called to devise measures whereby it might be restored to its former state of efficiency. However, no harm has been done by the expression of the opinion that a Volunteer Corps was still a necessity in the Settlement, and as the meeting was adjourned with the view to obtain a larger attendance by holding it after business hours in the evening, it is presumed that few, if any, will sign the lists before the next meeting is held, when practically, we should say, the proceedings will begin *de novo*. A second resolution was proposed and seconded, in favour of a uniformity in the style of uniform, but it was not submitted to the vote.

We have received a copy of the Shanghai Customs *Gazette* for the quarter ending September, being the third quarter of 1878, during which period the number of sailing vessels entered from coast, river, and foreign ports was 172, and of steamers 382, giving a total of 554, as against 594 in the same quarter of 1877. Of sailing vessels cleared during the three months there were 153, and of steamers 369, or a total of 522, as against 565 in the corresponding period of 1877. The total tonnage entered was 385,014, and cleared 360,305; as compared with 419,634 and 397,003 respectively in the same quarter of 1877. The principal articles of import show considerable fluctuation and in many instances a marked falling-off, which, let us hope, is but temporary. But nevertheless, there the fact stands and cannot be regarded too seriously:—In grey shirtings alone the falling-off has been from 1,217,430 pieces in the same quarter 1877 to 722,389; while white plain sank from 155,926 to 114,637. In dyed plain and dyed spotted and brocaded there was a slight increase. In the import of American drills, a remarkable increase is shown, from 53,550 pieces in the September quarter of 1877 to 111,345; but the same cannot be said of English drills, which went down from 153,085 pieces in the third quarter of last year to 147,151 during the period under notice. The import of American sheetings, as compared with English, is still more perceptible. In the three months ending September, 1875, the import from England was 32,362 pieces, as against America 6,100; in 1876, England sent 4,847, America 23,158; 1877, England 9,250, America 60,865; while for the three months just ended, the figures stand, England 4,200, America 66,431.—The table

of re-exports of the same class of goods shows, English drills in the third quarter of 1877, 245,690 pieces, as against American 36,445; in 1878, English 207,300, American 127,210; English sheetings in 1877, 12,463 pieces, American 32,374; in 1878, English 17,290 pieces; American 130,125. These figures are in the highest degree significant when compared with the imports from America in the same three months of 1875 and 1876. In the former year these amounted to only 7,920 pieces, but rose in the next year to 13,239. Surely some explanation of these rapid changes is known to the initiated, and if it be dishonest trickery on the part of British manufacturers in supplying inferior goods, it would seem to be high time for some public and unanimous effort being made to compel them to return to honest ways before British commerce in this part of the world suffers still more.

It has been notified that on and after the 1st November, an advance of ten per cent. will be charged upon the total money collected for each telegraphic message sent from Shanghai, both local, European, and transit. This, the advertisement further states, is "in order to indemnify against the losses caused by the low rates of exchange," and it is to be expressly understood that it is a provisional measure only, the rate per word not being officially altered.

Reuter's Telegram Agency here has followed suit, having also issued a notification stating that owing to the additional charges to be collected on messages sent through the Telegraph Companies at Shanghai, the tariff at the above agency will be, from this date, increased ten per cent., and continue so until further notice.

We are glad to hear that a memorial is being signed for transmission Home by next mail, asking that the alteration of the time of P. & O. mail departures in December next, may be changed from Sunday to Saturday morning. This is a question that affects nearly every resident in Shanghai, and we hope that the signatures to the memorial will not only be influential but general—the greater the number the greater influence.

The article we publish elsewhere from the *Overland Mail* on the changes to be made in the India and China mail service, deserves special attention from residents in Shanghai, as showing the necessity for united action in regard to the protest intended to be sent Home against the despatch of the P. & O. mail steamers from this port on Sundays. It is clear that Friday and Monday will be retained as the days of departure and arrival in London, and the article quoted further says an alteration must be made somewhere, but of course "London, which is the main focus, must be considered first. So far as the Eastern ports are concerned, they will all have new mail days, but it is obviously impossible to give them a choice of days before London." The sentences just quoted are significant of what may be expected to happen at Shanghai, unless vigorous and united action is at once exerted to obtain the departure of the mails on Saturday morning.

With reference to the intended P. & O. mail changes in December next, the *China*

Mail says:—"It will be satisfactory to know that, even before the fresh conditions of the new mail contract for 1880 come into force, it has been arranged that the English mails, hence to Europe per P. & O. steamers, will be accelerated by two days. The mail steamers, while leaving Hongkong two days later than usual, will arrive at the same time as provided by previous calculations, the two days being presumably made up by extra speed. This change it is expected will come into force about the end of the year, when we presume Saturday will again become the mail day until the change of the monsoon; after which, in accordance with established custom, the mail day would fall on Monday. This alteration certainly will not suit the convenience of residents here, though it may be a gain to the majority; but as the news regarding the changes is only as yet telegraphic, it would be premature to discuss the probable disadvantages in point of convenience against the advantages of accelerated transit."

The inaugural entertainment of the season of the Shanghai Temperance Society was given on Saturday evening, when there was a large and appreciative audience. A capital programme was presented, and the proceedings throughout were most enjoyable.

Some further subscriptions to the China Famine Relief Fund are published elsewhere. They include the balance to the credit of the Famine Fund at Hongkong, received through the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Tls. 707.82. The total collected to date now amounts to Tls. 187,868.06; of which a cash balance of Tls. 1,853.07 is in the hands of the Treasurer, together with a fixed deposit of Tls. 25,000.

H.E. Chung How, Minister to Russia, and suite, arrived from Tientsin on Tuesday afternoon, by the China Merchants' Company's steamer *Pantah*. He was received by several high native officials, with much gorgeous ceremonial, and was escorted to the Canton Guild, in the Ningpo Road, where he was visited by large numbers on Wednesday, the chairs and jinrickshas being so numerous that the road was almost impassable.

A remarkably sudden death occurred on Tuesday evening. Mr. M. R. Edwards, a well-known Yangtze pilot, left some friends at five o'clock in the afternoon to go to his home in the neighbourhood of the Soochow Creek, and two hours afterwards he was found to be dead. A post mortem examination made by Dr. Johnston, showed that death had resulted from rupture of the aorta.

The steamers *Glenfinlas* and *Glenarthey* are both expected to arrive shortly from Japan. The latter, we understand, is under the command of Captain Auld, late of the *Glenearn*, Captain Gulland, who so successfully ran her in the tea races, remaining in England to take the command of the new steamer *Glencoe*.

We are informed that the Marquis Tseng, Minister to England and France, visited the Roman Catholic establishments at Siccawei on Tuesday.

The *Nagasaki Rising Sun* says the British schooner *Louise*, about which vessel some anxiety has been felt, through her non-appearance at Nagasaki, arrived at Hakodate on the 4th instant, after a long and dreary passage from Shanghai.

The military correspondent of the *Turkistan Gazette*, at Vernoe, writes that on the 13th of July intelligence reached the Russian garrison at Naryn, that a battle had taken place between the Kashgarian insurgents of Kotan, led by Nyaz Bek, and 3,000 Chinese troops from Aksu, resulting almost in the entire annihilation of the latter.

Elsewhere will be found an extract from the *London Bullionist*, on the subject of Germany's stock of silver, which contains within a small compass very valuable information in connection with the Silver Question, which is so greatly attracting public attention at the present time.

The *Overland Mail* says an impression that Indian exchange rates are likely to go lower than they are is confirmed by the weekly operations of Government. Remitters from India are strengthened in an opinion that delay will land them in loss. To send money forward from India is strongly advised, as more economical than keeping it for better rates. On the same grounds—the probable fall in exchange—Mr. de Quetteville, the Indian Exchange broker, advises holders of 5½ per cent. Rupee paper to accept the 4½ per cent. paper offered by Government in exchange, in preference to waiting for repayment. Of course, no one can prophesy what the rate of exchange will actually be when the 5½ per cent. loan is paid off, but the opinion of experienced exchange brokers points to less favourable rates than now.

Shanghai is not the only place in the East where the residents are keeping an eye upon new projects for improved artificial lighting; for, says a correspondent of the *Ceylon Times*, "Good news comes by this mail for unfortunate gas consumers in Colombo. Experiments are being made in London with the electric light, and it is anticipated that the invention must necessarily exercise a wholesome influence on the Gas Companies. If ever the electric light competes with gas, the Companies will strain every nerve to beat their competitor. Gas will be made cheaper and better than it now is, and already there is a striking indication of this. A simple process has been discovered by which ordinary gas can be so raised in its lighting power that the consumer can have the light of forty candles instead of ten. The extra expense is very trifling, but at present there are some mechanical drawbacks. I trust that they will be overcome, and that we shall see the new light presently in all its radiant beauty."

FURTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE CHINA FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

	Tael.
Good Templars in Alabama, U.S.	
America, collected by Alouzo E. Skaggs, Esq., received through W. R. Kahler, Esq., Kiukiang, £2 8s., at 5s. 2½d.	9.52
Balance to the Credit of the Famine Fund in Hongkong, received through Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$984.09	707.82
	Tls. 717.34
Amounts acknowledged.....	187,150.72
Total collected to date...Sh. Tls. 187,868.06	
Fixed Deposit at 3% Tls. 25,000	
Cash Balance in hands of the Treasurer.....Tls. 1,853.07	
	Tls. 26,853.07

(Sgd.) F. W. LEMARCHAND,
Shanghai, 30th October. Treasurer.

Editorial Selections.

THE WU-SHIH-SHAN AFFAIR.

THE Wu-shih-shan affair at Foochow is apparently entering on a new phase, and the Viceroy has enlisted on his side the services of Mr. Bidwell, who happened by accident to be present at Foochow. Of the appointment of Mr. Bidwell, or the acceptance of the appointment by the latter, we have little to say. It is probably in the interests of both parties that some impartial intermediary should be availed of, and Mr. Bidwell's position seemed certainly to have a tendency to render his views impartial. It is therefore with the greater regret that we notice that Mr. Bidwell, while acting in the capacity of intermediary, has seen fit to throw aside the reserve becoming to that character, and in a letter published in the *Foochow Herald* of the 10th instant has appeared on the scene as the advocate of the Chinese, not only in this matter of the Wu-shih-shan, but in the question of Missionaries in general; a thing quite beyond the purpose and long ago established by direct treaty stipulations. The matter in dispute in the Wu-shih-shan affair is not whether English or Roman Missionaries, according to the stereotyped expression, "do most good," i.e., make most converts in China, but whether the Rev. J. R. Wolfe had a valid title to the land in question; and whether the measures adopted by the Mandarins and the mob, for both are unfortunately so mixed together that it is difficult to distinguish one from the other, were sanctioned by the laws of China or the stipulations of the Treaty of Tientsin. That instrument, which defines the international relations between Great Britain and China, says distinctly:—

"The Christian religion, as professed by Protestants or Roman Catholics, inculcates the practice of virtue, and teaches man to do as he would be done by. Persons teaching it or professing it, therefore, shall alike be entitled to the protection of the Chinese authorities; nor shall any such peaceably pursuing their calling, and not offending against the law, be persecuted or interfered with.—British subjects shall enjoy the same privileges, &c., including the right of residence, of buying or renting houses, of leasing land therein, and of building Churches, Hospitals and Cemeteries.—If a Chinese have reason to complain of a British subject, the Consul shall, no less, listen to his complaint, and endeavour to settle it in a friendly manner. If disputes take place of such a nature that the Consul cannot arrange them amicably, then he shall request the assistance of the Chinese authorities, that they may together examine into the merits of the case, and decide it equitably.—The Chinese authorities shall at all times afford the fullest protection to the persons and properties of British subjects, whenever these shall have been subjected to insult or vio-

lence. In all cases of incendiarism or robbery, the local authorities shall at once take the necessary steps for the recovery of the stolen property, the suppression of disorder, and the arrest of the guilty parties, whom they will punish according to law."

The complaint of the Rev. J. R. Wolfe in the matter of the Wu-shih-shan disturbance, is that all of these treaty stipulations have been contravened by the Chinese authorities. First, that violence has been offered on the plea that he, as a Missionary, preached the doctrines of the Protestant faith. Secondly, that having legally rented land within the limits of the city of Foochow, attempts have been continually made to induce the Mission to remove to the foreign settlement at Nan-tai. Thirdly, that instead of bringing their complaints before the Consul, who was bound to hear them, and if well founded to give the case in their favour, threats of violence were made use of; and lastly, that the protection bound to be afforded to British subjects in cases of disturbance was not so afforded, but on the contrary the mob were permitted to burn and destroy some at least of the buildings erected on the land in question.

These are facts which no amount of evasive evidence or special pleading can upset. The ruined buildings, destroyed without the sanction of the court provided to try such cases, remain as unimpeachable evidence. We are not now going to enter into the question of the validity of the title of the Missionaries to the premises rented by them. If their title was not clear, the way was open in the regular courts to upset it. The Consul would have afforded every assistance, as he was bound to do, to prevent encroachments, and without a word of ill feeling the whole question could have been decided. It is palpably too late for the Chinese authorities to plead the alleged defect in the title as an excuse for their misconduct. The whole proceedings of the 30th August were in contravention of the express terms of the Treaty of Tientsin; and until the Chinese Government proceeds to place matters in *statu quo ante*, they have legally no right to raise the question of validity of title. It was to provide against instances such as that of the Wu-shih-shan, where by a small but violent faction, attempts are made to override law and order, that the stipulations regarding the protection of life and property were inserted in the Treaty. There is no reason to believe that the majority of the peaceably disposed inhabitants of Foochow feel any grievance at the foreign buildings erected on the Wu-shih-shan, a ground which has now for some thirty years been in the occupation of foreign owners.

JAPANESE PARTY CRIES.

THE Japanese are fond of adopting catch words and party cries. They are, like the French, very easily led by happy phrases. The inventor of a

clever word, just hitting off the topic of the moment, is a power in the land, and if this word may be found to have more senses than one so much the better. Such a word is Jō-i! It has been roughly and correctly rendered by the two English words "Barbarian expelling," but it seems, if we are to credit Kubota Kanichi in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbum*, to have by no means the offensive meaning which, at the first blush of the matter, it seemed to bear. The Japanese publicist is most anxious to have Jō-i divested of all its unfriendly and hard significance, and to have it henceforth understood in a Pickwickian sense.

Now, on the face of it, of course foreign expelling means the expulsion of foreigners; and as it is extremely improbable that foreigners will go of their own accord, there is a strong presumption that those who advocate such expulsion advocate really and truly the use of force and the unsheathing of the sword. This is the view of the word which the *Japan Mail* has not perhaps very unnaturally taken, but the Japanese Press is anxious to free itself from any violent designs. "I do not mean to say that the treaty of friendship should be broken and the intercourse with foreigners, which is the means of getting civilized, should cease, or that the open ports should be closed and the foreign trade, which is the source of wealth, be stopped; nor do I mean to say that we should brandish our swords and attack and kill innocent Europeans, or carry lances and assassinate crimeless Americans." What the writer did mean to say was something much milder than this. It appears that when he spoke of "expelling the foreigner," he meant "expanding the spirit of opposition," and if there seems to be an undue shade of hostility in this phrase, we are informed that "expanding the spirit of opposition" really means "expanding, or strengthening, the feeling of being independent." Thus explained, of course, there is very little harm in Jō-i. The point to be considered is whether we can fully and absolutely accept this view of the word. There seems to be little difficulty in believing that Japan views with intense interest the march of historical events in Europe. Her statesmen and her public writers watch the game of politics that is being played in the West, and they note how States rise in influence and importance, and how they sink in power and prestige. It is apparent that nations become great by "securing foundation of the country and repelling insult from abroad," and this is clearly a very different thing from driving out a number of resident foreigners, who exercise their industries in a country under treaty rights, which are mutually beneficial to all those concerned. A violent measure by which the "innocent Europeans" and "crimeless Americans" were driven from the Mikado's territories, if such a feat were possible, which

it is not, would result in a war and a forcible opening of the country, under such conditions as are imposed by victors, and this would place Japan in a position which we should deeply regret to see her occupy. If any idea of such an attempt lurks in the minds of the Jō-i party, they may be warned that they have not the interests of the Empire at heart, and that they meditate a step which instead of "securing" would "loosen" the foundation of the country. Therefore there is reason to regret that the word is being bandied about so freely that the Japanese are accustoming themselves to look with renewed jealousy and dislike on the foreigner. Though Kubota desires to tone down the term, it is an ugly one, and though in his study he may attach a mild sense to it and view it as representing merely friendly rivalry, still to the masses it is an angry word and one likely to stir up strife. When an Irishman called an Englishman a Saxon, he did not use the term in a pleasant sense, and in like manner the ideas connected with barbarians are all unfavourable. Though a Latin poet once applied the adjective "barbara" to his own tongue, it is generally the synonym for something "uncouth," "uncultivated," and then "savage" and "brutal." Such meanings gather about the term Jō-i, and therefore the less it is used the better, if Japan is to preserve its peaceful relations with the outside world.

AFGHANISTAN.

ALMOST the only disastrous cloud which shadowed the early years of the reign of Queen Victoria was the unfortunate retreat from Cabul. The picture of 4,500 combatants and 12,000 followers fighting their way inch by inch among a wild and fanatical horde of savages in a mountain pass, five miles in length, amidst ice and snow, and with the thermometer below freezing point, made an impression on the public mind which it took years to efface. It is true that the defeat of January was retrieved in August, and that within eight months General Pollock had conquered Akbar Khan, the prisoners were released, and a British Army was in possession of Cabul. It is also true that we now know exactly what mistakes were committed in the former campaign, and that we shall be able to operate, if we go to war again with the Afghans, furnished with large experience as well as with a military organization amazingly in advance of that employed in 1842. And it seems quite within the compass of possibility that we shall have to send an expeditionary force into the Ameer's country once more. The British Press, with one voice, presses the necessity of active measures, and several strong reasons combine to urge us to vigour and promptitude of action. It seems, at the first glance, that already too much time has been lost, and that several

valuable months have been permitted to slip. It would be absurd to delay the movement of troops so long as to risk a defeat from "General January," but either at once or in the spring, Shere Ali must be brought to comply with our demands. He has delayed recently, we are told, owing to the death of his favourite son and destined successor, Abdullah Jan, and there seems reason to believe that he may be stricken by this blow, and that the procrastination observable of late may result from his inability to attend to public affairs. But though the father's grief must be respected, matters are too urgent for any prevarication or evasion to be tolerated. We have to oppose the progress of Russian intrigue, and counterveil, by every possible means, their advances into Afghanistan. It is to be borne constantly in mind that "at the beginning of the last century, the Russian advanced posts were 2,500 miles distant from those of the English. At the close of the century the distance was lessened to 2,000, and at the commencement of the present century the distances were reduced to 1,000 miles. Since the end of the Crimean War, that distance has been further reduced to 400 miles." These facts speak for themselves. It is easy to talk in a jaunty way about people falling into panics because they do not use large maps; but in India, as in Turkey, the memorable words of Mr. Cross' speech hits the true note, "still the Russians are advancing." Now, if a Muscovite General once encamps on the Bala Hissar, the rule of Great Britain over her Indian possessions will be constantly troubled, and her tenure of power will be rendered, if not precarious, at least uneasy. And it is clear that the troops who passed the Balkans under such difficulties as those which opposed the Russians in the recent campaign against Turkey, are men not likely to be daunted by obstacles. It is necessary then for us to rectify our frontier. The present line is pronounced by most military authorities to be indefensible. "It extends over a thousand miles, and can be penetrated at all points by passes in the possession of tribes mostly hostile." The Czar, with his forces at Cabul, would command all the entrances to British territory. Nor is this the sum of the danger. British India is a rich booty. It has tempted spoilers over and over again, and if once the Russians held the Ameer's capital, the threads of intrigue, which have been spinning so long, would be found to be united and held in one hand. Then the hordes of Central Asia would be bribed to ally themselves with Russia, and an invasion would be attempted at some well-chosen moment, which it would be next to impossible to resist. Everything points in one direction. We must, without delay, bring the Ameer to terms, and if the mission of peace fails, Afghanistan must be taken possession of. Such is the language of a large section of the Press at

Home. The *Friend of India*, of course, consistently with the role it has taken up, says that "the future of Afghanistan is a question which might well have been left for settlement to another generation," and lauds "the wise policy of non-interference." We are further told that if we are to hold Afghanistan, we shall have to spend ten millions a year. It seems to us that if we are to fight Russia at a terrible disadvantage, which we shall have to do if she gets Afghanistan (and if we do not take it she will), we should have to spend far more than ten millions. It is the old story of watching the beginning of things, and not grudging effort or money at the critical moment in order to save in the end. For the present we are endeavouring to obtain what we want by diplomacy, but it is diplomacy with force at the back, and the fact that our envoy, Sir Neville Chamberlain, is one of the most brilliant soldiers in India, "as much covered with decorations as he is with scars," must be a significant hint to the Ameer that we are this time in earnest.

EGYPT.

HARDLY has the mighty hand of England closed over the small but wealthy Island of Cyprus, when another portion of the Turkish Empire—which for years past has been making headlong progress towards ruin, labouring under an impotent and despotic Khédive, reckless of the country's welfare, heedful only of those things which would add to his own wealth and pamper his own luxury, using the utmost means of audacity in accumulating estates for his own and family's use, and rejoicing in the fact that he could spend six millions sterling per annum,—comes under our notice, and bids fair to fall eventually into the hands of England.

Everyone is acquainted with the recent details in the history of Egypt, and all know something of its past history. How in 1517 it was conquered by Sultan Selim I, and the Mamlouk dynasty abolished; but from an incomplete establishment of the sovereignty of the Porte, after some years of submission the Beys again revolted, elected their own chief, levied their own taxes, created an army, exercised supreme authority over the whole country, refused to pay any longer tribute to the Porte, and shipped Khrosrew Pasha back again to Constantinople,—how that Mehemet Ali, the chief figure in modern Egyptian history, distinguished himself in the war against the French, and again against the rebel Beys, and in 1805 was proclaimed Viceroy,—how that in 1832, after Mehemet Ali had subdued all the countries round about, and was only arrested in his colossal strides by the interference of Russia, which caused a treaty to be entered into between the Porte and its great vassal, the treaty of Kutaiah, in which

Mehemet Ali was recognised as feudal sovereign over Egypt, Crete, and Syria, and the large district of Adana, on the sole condition of his paying tribute,—how the British Government espoused the cause of the Sultan, and in the same year forced Mehemet Ali back from Syria, and made him content himself with Egypt only,—how that this was formally guaranteed by the treaty of 1840, between the Porte, Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, and was further confirmed by the Convention of the following year, to which France also became a party.

The settlement thus ratified gave to the Porte the old right of tribute, and decided the strength of the Viceroy's military forces. Mehemet Ali now abandoned all idea of further aggrandisement, and concentrated his energies to such an extent on the social and material improvements of his country, that he has justly been called the Peter the Great of Egypt.

Ismael Pasha (the present reigning Khédive) is the nephew of the third son of Mehemet Ali, and with his accession in 1863 commences a new epoch in the political and social history of the country. At the commencement of his Governorship he manifested a desire to be something greater than his predecessors, and showing an uneasiness of spirit on being looked upon as a mere provincial vali, he entered into negotiations with Stamboul which in 1866 resulted in an Imperial firman by which, in consideration of the yearly tribute being increased from £376,000 to £650,000 he received the title and rank of Khédiv-el-Misir, King of Egypt, commonly called Khédive. We need not enter deeply into the heavy details of Egyptian finance; suffice it to say that the Egyptian debt, in round numbers, amounts to the enormous figure of £90,000,000, and towards the end of 1875 its difficulties had culminated at a point that would then have compelled a suspension of payment, but for the sale of the Khédive's shares in the Suez Canal to the British Government for nearly four million pounds, which temporarily staved off the crisis. And now the Khédive, realising the sad condition of his finances, requests Her Majesty's Government to send experienced financiers to reorganise and remodel his financial administration. The last news that reaches us from England, is to the effect that the report of the Commissioners has been presented; the Khédive has solemnly thanked the Commissioners for their report, and has undertaken to carry out the suggestions it contains. This happy frame of mind is not due to the arguments of reformers and financiers, but to the pressure of England and France; and this pressure of the Western Powers has been exercised by using the implied threat, that if he did not do as he was bid he and his family might be removed altogether. Very little is yet known of the report, but it is believed to recommend many administrative and

financial changes, and calls upon the Khédive to surrender for the benefit of the State the large estates which he has acquired for the benefit of his family. He feigns to be quite indifferent as to what administrative and fiscal changes may be made; he is willing to surrender all his estates and all the property he can induce his family to abandon, and to accept *in toto* the European system of constitutional Government. Nubar Pasha, who has distinguished himself as a man of very great abilities, by his memorandums and despatches to the Governments of England and France, is to be head of the administration, and Mr. Rivers Wilson is to be Minister of Finance; so that an Armenian and an Englishman will actually govern Egypt. The fatal blow that has been hanging over the head of the Khédive so long, has fallen at last, and he has fallen under it perhaps for ever. He is no longer a sovereign prince; he has consented to be put in commission, and can now look forward to ending his days in a position of much comfort, day by day watching his once powerful sway fall away, and drawing the curtains around him, retiring to rest.

This decision of his will be readily acquiesced in by the people he governed; the sweat and blood of the fellahs have fertilised his estates and built great public works, solely to increase his wealth; and now even the much enduring fellah murmurs in revolt, curses his taskmaster and looks to England for liberation. Before the Russo-Turkish War removed her representatives from Cairo, Russia was busily agitating in Egypt by the assistance of Pan Slavist envoys. Italy, too, claims a consultative voice in the Council of the Khédive in all matters of foreign concern; but France, whose influence was once so predominant, is losing it day by day, and the most fastidious of her politicians realise it.

M. Gambetta, in a late speech commenting on the English annexation of Cyprus, remarks:—"Two years will be sufficient before England awakes from her trance. England will then be hopelessly embarrassed by her annexations, and her working classes desperate against over taxation and militarism. She will have taken Egypt, we shall have taken Tunis; nor shall we grudge her the acquisition, because we know perfectly well the bill will drive John Bull to madness, and her working classes will be ripe for Revolution and the Republic." There may be an amount of truth in M. Gambetta's assertions, but we believe they may be looked upon for the most part as empty rhetorical flourish; at any rate, it is comforting to have friends in calamity, as in the same speech he predicts quite as blighted a picture for Germany and Russia. If a thousand Gambettas were to wag their tongues till doomsday, they could not prevent English influence growing where Englishmen

have once settled. They have made for Egypt railways and constructed her docks, built her light-houses, arranged her finances, and now they are invited to do their utmost to govern her well. It remains to be seen if England (as was conceived by Mehemet Ali) can succeed in making Egypt a manufacturing as well as an agricultural country; there is an immense field for enterprise—land fertile, populous and well situated, with much mineral wealth, with shores where commerce has flourished throughout all ages, and in close proximity to the prosperous States of Europe. Egypt has heretofore endeavoured partially and tentatively to introduce European customs and ways, including the perilous art of borrowing; in the hands of Eastern Rulers they have been found to be unfruitful, and have resulted in almost utter ruin. England will have done a great work if she but rid this ancient country of the terrible incubus that lies upon her breast, and breathes new life into the yet vigorous lungs of the still mighty frame.

GERMANY'S STOCK OF SILVER.

The following extract from the London *Bullionist* of 13th July will prove interesting to those who have not already come into possession of the facts:—

"The facts about Germany's stock of Silver were brought out before the Financial Committee of the Reichstag at the end of March.

970 millions marks* in silver.

91 do. in gold.

1,061 millions had been withdrawn. The mint has turned out—

1,579 millions marks in gold.

425 do. in silver.

a total of 2,004 millions.

"It has sold 450 millions marks of old silver, and has still to dispose of 400 millions more, that amount being supposed to be still in circulation. The loss on the silver sold amounted to 62½ millions marks, which was partly offset by the profit of 43 millions on the fractional coin. The present condition of the silver market leads to the belief that there will be as heavy a loss on the 400 millions marks remaining to be sold as on the larger sum already thrown on the market.

"It therefore appears that out of 970 millions marks of Silver withdrawn, about half, 425 millions, was re-coined. So if 400 millions are still in circulation, it may be expected that only about 240 will be available for sale; but then it must be noted that the 970 millions were actual withdrawals, the 400 will have to bear the brunt of the entire amount of the old coinage, lost or destroyed, and which will never reappear to trouble the world. The total amount of German Silver now likely to

* The mark may be taken as equal to a shilling of English money.

come on the markets of the world may therefore be estimated at somewhere between 5 and 10 millions sterling, and its realization will probably be spread over several years."

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

The prevalence of dysentery, and the resulting mortality as well, among the Chinese, is something dreadful. There has been a change for the better in the weather during the last few days, which I trust may soon show its beneficial effects on the general health of the place. It has been really the most trying season—summer and fall—so far, that I have ever known, i.e., in fifteen and-a-half years' residence here.

From Shantung border, a part of the famine field, where relief was given last winter, I have letters saying that the mortality is quite as great as during the worst times last spring. Typhus has been doing a sad work of desolation, and now, with the change of the season, dysentery is much to be feared. To add to the misery of many of the poor, the canal has burst its banks, and a large tract of country is inundated. This seems to have been the effect of a very sudden rise of some 15 feet in its waters. I am happy to be able to say that the water is now falling, and it is to be hoped that the breach in the bank may soon be stopped.

I think "Wanderer" has "drawn a pretty long bow." Some of his statements I know to be false; but then is it worth while, or best, to notice such things too much? With those whose opinions or views are of value, such things go for almost nothing. I know there is a class of persons who never let an opportunity pass to say an ill word of Protestant Missionaries, not knowing whereof they speak. For they will not, by honest inquiry and investigation, make the least effort to inform themselves. From what I know of Protestant Missionaries as a body, they are willing to impart full information to all inquirers—more, that they desire their defamers to investigate before they speak. Because of the honesty and openness of their work, with nothing to conceal, and asking only for fair inquiry and a fair hearing, they can usually afford to pass by with the silent contempt they deserve, the attacks made on them and their work.

I am a little surprised at Mr. Lees' remarks on Chinese Mandarins; for I have heard some terrible stories of their misdeeds in the section of country where he distributed relief. He must have got into a different atmosphere in Shanghai.

It is refreshing to have such a genial expression of appreciation of the efforts of foreigners, as that from H.E. the Viceroy. I'm sorry he seems to decline further aid, when it is known that it will be greatly needed in some parts during the coming winter.

19th October.

H.E. Chung How went on board the China Merchants' Co.'s steamer *Pautah* this afternoon, in great state. He was met between the city and the settlement by over 1,000 foreign drilled troops, with bugles playing and banners flying, and the salute was given at this point by a volley from the troops. He was escorted by the soldiery as far as the foreign settlement; and on his way to the Company's office he made parting calls on the Consular representatives. He looks somewhat older, but has the same genial, pleasant face that characterized him when occupying the position of Superintendent of Trade at this port previous to his former mission to

France. His dress of Imperial yellow silk was plain and neat. He was accompanied on board by H.E. the Viceroy, and a small host of lesser stars paid their respects to him on board.—The weather is moderating, with bright, sunny days.
25th Oct.

WUHU.

Our correspondent writes:—Your paragraphs about the upsets on the river have created quite a commotion here, and it is but right to say that the bad accident took place at An-king, not at Wuhu. At the latter place there is every care and attention shown to passengers landing from the steamers, and excellent boats are provided. An-king is a landing-place also, and in heavy weather and with an overladen boat it is at times lively, to say the least of it.

We have had only one fine day since the 4th instant—clouds, drizzle, winds, &c., prevailing. We may say with the Scotchman, "No, it does not always rain, sometimes it drizzles." The weather here is certainly most extraordinary for the time of year, when we generally have a succession of cloudless days. Can any of your gifted meteorologists afford some explanation of it?

21st October.

FOOCHOW.

The *Herald* says cholera is said to be prevalent in several country villages; and for the last two weeks there have been several deaths from it inside the city. A native doctor reports having seen three cases in one day, all of which proved fatal. Out of a given number of cases the death-rate is said to be greater than last year.—With reference to the rumoured resignation of Mr. Tong King-sing, the chief manager of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, the *Herald* now understands that the report is at least premature. The truth is, however, that the Company's affairs are in a far from flourishing condition, notwithstanding the enormous revenue derived this year from the grain transit north. It is understood that nothing has been written off for depreciation, and that some of the old steamers purchased from the S. S. N. Co. are now unfit for work. It is doubtful if the Company's present fleet and property would realise over Tls. 2,000,000, if placed on the open market. Such is the present condition of an enterprise designed to run foreign craft off the China coast!

A correspondent writes per str. *Europe* that opium smuggling goes on as usual—as it always will do, that is, so long as the present state of things lasts—in order to avoid the heavy *lekin* tax. On the 25th instant, a boat in which were a number of smugglers called in, and some of the crew purchased several chests of opium from foreign honges. On returning down the river they were observed by some of the *lekin* runners, who opened fire upon them. I cannot say if any of the smugglers were hit, but they all managed to get away.

We are thinking much about your autumn race meeting, and I regret to say that owing to various causes several of us cannot come, though you will no doubt have a good sprinkling of Foochowites in your midst for the three or four days. Those who cannot leave, will if possible compensate themselves by the delights and excitement of our own meeting, which will shortly follow, and training for which will be commenced next month, that is if the Camp can be obtained from the native officials. Would you mind saying that we badly want a vet and farrier to come and reside at Foochow, though it is hardly possible to say what amount of business he would command.

26th October.

The *Herald* reports a special general meeting of members of the Foochow Chamber of Commerce which was held on the 22nd inst., to consider a proposition from the Chinese authorities—through the Commissioner of Customs—in reference to a reduction of the *lekin* tax on opium, on payment of same being guaranteed by the importers. Mr. Odell, of the firm of Odell and Leyburn, occupied the chair, and the following firms were represented, viz.:—Messrs. Russell & Co., Jardine, Matheson & Co., Gibb, Livingston & Co., Holliday, Wise & Co., David Sassoon, Sons & Co., Hedge & Co., Phipps, Hickling & Co., Adamson, Bell & Co., Fairhurst, Reeves & Co., Siemssen & Co., Butterfield & Swire, George Oliver & Co., and John Forster & Co. The notice convening the meeting having been read, the Secretary was requested to read the letter from the Commissioner of Customs on the subject of the proposed reduction; and a general decision—subject to further explanations—was, after some discussion, arrived at in favor of giving a year's trial to the proposed arrangement by which the *lekin* tax would be reduced to fifty-five taels per picul in consideration of consignees securing the payment of such tax on all their consignments as per Customs entries. To this end, a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Ezekiel, Angus, and Tennant, with power to add to their number, were chosen to confer with the Commissioner of Customs in regard to certain points of detail on which the Chamber had not been fully informed. A resolution in favor of abolishing the present credit system under which foreign importers dispose of their drug to Chinese dealers, and the substitution of another system, having for its basis cash operations, was agreed to by a majority of those present—subject to the unanimous consent of all members of the Chamber. A vote of thanks to the chair closed the proceedings.

The Committee of the Foochow Horticultural Society intend having a Chrysanthemum Show on or about the 6th proximo, when the following prizes will be awarded:—

- For the best specimen plant (White) 1st prize \$4.00, 2nd prize \$2.00.
- For the best specimen plant (Yellow) 1st prize \$4.00, 2nd prize \$2.00.
- For the best specimen plant (Purple or Maroon) 1st prize \$4.00, 2nd prize \$2.00.
- For the best specimen plant (Variegated) 1st prize \$4.00, 2nd prize \$2.00.
- For the best six plants of assorted colours, no two to be of the same colour, 1st prize \$6.00, 2nd prize \$3.00.
- For the two best "buttons" of different colours, 1st prize \$3.00, 2nd prize \$1.00.
- For the best three straggling or open kinds of different colours, 1st prize \$5.00, 2nd prize \$2.00.
- For the best three compact kinds of different colours, 1st prize \$3.00, 2nd prize \$1.00.

The *Herald*, in its commercial summary of the 24th inst., says a smaller amount of business is reported. *Congou*:—Owing to comparatively heavy arrivals of common grades, Teamen have been willing sellers of these kinds, at a reduction of about five mace per picul on last week's prices. Buying is not, however, general. *Souchong*:—A few settlements have been declared at about previous rates.

Settlements from 17th to 23rd Oct:—

		Tls.	per picul,
Congou	10,161 chests.	6	a 23 (short.)
Souchong ..	592 "	11	a 22 "
Oolong	134 1/2 "	15 1/2	" "
Scented Tea	546 boxes	16 1/2	" "

Total Arrivals. Settlements. Stock.
 Congou 747,062 727,795 19,267 chests.
 Souchong 43,255 38,669 4,586 "
 Oolong 34,600 34,206 394 cts.
 Flowery Pekoe 5,200 5,108 92 chests.
 Scented Tea .. 86,442 84,109 2,333 boxes.
 Freight.—To London, per steamer, 30s. a 40s. per ton of 40 cubic feet; per sailing ship, nominal. Vessels loading.—For London, steamship *Sarpodon* (under despatch),

and sailing vessel *Fantasia* (fully engaged.) For Australia, sailing vessels *Hebe* (under despatch) and *Mary Smith*. Vessels expected to load.—For London, steamship *Glenfalloch*. For Australia, sailing vessels *Roderick Hay* and *Kate Waters*.

HONGKONG.

The *China Mail* extracts from the *L. & C. Express* the following comment on Mr. Hennessy's policy:—"The Colony has always been a land of refuge for the most hardened of Chinese criminals; and if Mr. Pope Hennessy continues to pursue his present policy, the English law in these parts will soon lose its majesty, and Hongkong will become a hotbed of desperadoes. We do not suppose that this latest manifestation of Mr. Pope Hennessy's affection for the 'heathen Chinese' will very much surprise anyone. It is only another phase of the charitable mind which believes in confidential official native clerks, in native warders for the jail, and which takes part in periodical showy parades and hollow flattery at the Tung Wha Hospital."—Addresses have been presented to the Hon. C. C. Smith, by both the Foreign and Chinese residents of Hongkong, on the occasion of his leaving for Singapore to undertake the duties of Colonial Secretary for the Straits Settlements. The addresses were expressive of the deep sense entertained of the services rendered by Mr. Smith in the various posts he has held in Hongkong during a period of sixteen years; and especially during the time when he held the office of Registrar-General. The *Daily Press*, commenting on these presentations, says:—"The addresses presented by the foreign community and by the Chinese to the Hon. C. C. Smith, testify to the respect and esteem in which he is held in this Colony. The residents, foreign and native, very properly marked their appreciation of Mr. Smith's sixteen years' service in Hongkong by a public expression of the same, which must have been highly gratifying to the recipient. As Registrar-General and Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. Smith has shown signal administrative abilities and a uniform desire to do his duty conscientiously. As he remarked, in his modest reply to the address by the foreign community, he can truly claim that 'sincerity of purpose has been alone his guiding principle.' Mr. Smith, like most other officials, committed errors of judgment in the earlier days of his residence here, when his experience was limited, but *humanum est errare*; perfection should be expected from no man. Mr. Smith joins great administrative capacity with a valuable experience of Chinese ways and customs, and a knowledge of the Chinese language that will be of great service to him in his new post at Singapore. An official better qualified to act as Colonial Secretary for the Straits Settlements could scarcely have been chosen."

The *Daily Press* says the British steamer *Ocean King*, Captain Roper, which arrived at Hongkong on the 18th instant, made a good run down from Amoy, her average speed throughout being over 14 knots per hour.—The Kogio Kaisha, a new Japanese commercial establishment, is about to open a branch at Hongkong. Japanese interests in Hongkong are, remarks the *Press*, steadily developing.—His Excellency the Governor has received an autograph letter from the Viceroy of the Two Kwang, on the subject, it is stated, of the release of Mr. Kwok Acheong's son. This is the first time, it is believed, that a Viceroy has addressed an autograph letter to a Governor of Hongkong, official communications being formerly answered by the Governor of Kwang-tung.—The *Press* understands that Mr. E. R. Bellios, late Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, has placed, in Governor Hennessy's hands, the sum of

£1,000 for a statue to Lord Beaconsfield to be erected in Hongkong. A suitable site has been proposed between Beaconsfield Lodge and St. John's Cathedral, overlooking the Parade Ground. The statue, which is to be of bronze, has been ordered from England.—The case against Frederick Slowley Huffam is on the calendar for the present sessions, and it has been arranged in court that it should be tried on the 25th inst. Mr. Francis, instructed by Mr. Denny, is retained for the defence, and a special jury will be summoned for the case. Mr. Francis applied for permission for Mr. Huffam to see his books and accounts, of course in the presence of an officer of the court, as it was necessary for him to examine the books in order to fully instruct counsel. His Lordship, the Acting Chief Justice, said that of course Mr. Huffam should have every opportunity of examining the books within the precincts of the court and in the presence of an officer of the court; who that officer should be, he would leave to Mr. Sharp, the Crown Solicitor, to decide. There are five counts in the indictment against the prisoner, one of larceny and embezzlement, being employed in the public service of Her Majesty, and four of larceny as a trustee.—In reporting the committal of Newman for trial for murder, the *Daily Press* says his behaviour in the court was singular, and when spoken to by the Magistrate he appeared to be more excited. He was handcuffed with his hands in front, and he several times tried to pick the pocket of a constable who was standing near. There were a great many Europeans present in court during the trial. It is said several doctors have seen the prisoner recently, and say that he is not suffering from madness, but that his mind is evidently in a most excited state.

The *China Mail* learns that a telegram has been received in the Colony, stating that the inhabitants of Timor, having risen against the Portuguese authorities and delivered the island over to the Dutch, the Dutch flag has now been hoisted on all the forts.—The German brig *Peri* has been lost on Breaker Point. She was seen ashore on the 17th inst., and the German man-of-war *Freya*, on proceeding to the scene of the catastrophe in order to render assistance, found that all hands were safely on shore, and that the vessel was a hopeless wreck. The *Peri* has been on the coast for a long time.

The *Catholic Register* of the 14th instant is sorry to hear of the demise of Mr. José Maria da Silva e Souza, which occurred on the previous day, at his residence, D'Aguilar Street, at the age of 60. Mr. da Souza was the editor of the *Aurora Macaense*, the first Portuguese paper published in Macao after the free press law came into operation. He edited afterwards the *Verdade e Liberdade* in the early days of the Colony, and latterly the magazine *Impulso ás Letras*. His poem entitled *Vida e Milagres de Santa Filomena*, and several other literary productions are much and justly prized by the Portuguese.

CANTON.

Locusts were prevalent in the Tsung Fa and Fa Yuen districts recently, but fortunately they have been completely destroyed by the recent gale and rain storm.—Some of the thieves here, ever on the alert to take advantage of circumstances, have adopted a plan of representing themselves as employes of the opium farmers, commissioned to search shops for smuggled opium. In this way they have obtained admission to several shops and quickly made a clean sweep of everything worth taking away.—*Daily Press*.

16th October.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* hears that the Governor of Nagasaki has issued a notification stating that cholera is considerably on the increase, and that a meeting of the Consuls on the subject was afterwards held. It cannot be denied that an epidemic—whether cholera or not—of some virulence exists in the place, and preventive measures can no longer be disregarded. The result of the meeting of Consuls is not stated.—Latest advices from Kagoshima bring intelligence of the total wreck of a sailing ship called the *Lookout*, with loss of three lives, on Kutsuno Shima, during the typhoon which also proved so disastrous to the *Tokio Maru*.—In the town of Kagoshima the barracks were blown down, and the soldiers billeted amongst the hotels and dwelling houses; many houses were unroofed, and two ships and one steamer, in the harbour at the time, dragged their anchors, without, however, sustaining any serious damage. The town is being rapidly rebuilt, and trade showing some activity; merchants from this port and Osaka doing a thriving business.—The *Conn Maru* reports having passed the steamer *Nippo Maru* (late *Argus*) on a rock at the northern entrance to Spek Straits. She struck on the morning of the 14th inst., in trying to avoid running down a junk, and will probably become a total wreck, as she lies in a very exposed position and almost on her beam ends. The crew and passengers (about ninety) were all saved, and brought to Nagasaki by the *Conn Maru*. The *Nippo* was on her passage to Higo, from the North, which accounts for the large number of passengers.—The *Sun* observes that the alterations and extensions being made to the Imperial Telegraph office, consequent on the recent increase of traffic at that station, are now approaching completion.—The Suwa Festival, celebrated this year with much more than the ordinary display and gaiety has at length been brought to a close. There were the usual crowds, the usual brilliant dresses, and the usual eating and drinking on such events. It is, however, curious to note that whilst these old *matsuri* are gradually falling into desuetude in Yokohama and the capital, they retain all their wonted fervour in this vicinity.

In its naval news, the *Sun* says, H.M.S. *Lily* left on the 9th for the Gotos. U.S.S. *Ashtelot* arrived from Kobe on the 13th; H.I.R.M.S. *Sobol* from Chefoo on the 14th; and H.I.G.M. flag-ship *Leipzig* from Kobe on the 15th.

HIOGO.

The *News* translates from the *Osaka Nippo* that on the 10th instant the Hiogo Kencho informed the foreign Consuls that as cholera had appeared, entering vessels would be examined by special doctors, and that when cases are discovered on board, a yellow flag should be hoisted on that vessel, which should be removed from the neighbourhood of any other. Some doctor has announced that this cholera was imported from Shanghai at the end of last month, and is of the true Asiatic kind, severe attacks causing death in six hours.—Work on the the Railway tunnel at Osakayama, between Kioto and Otsu, was commenced on the 20th ultimo. The first ten feet were easily removed, but this brought the laborers to hard blue rock.—The perpetrators of a murder committed in Osaka some six or eight months ago have just been brought to justice in a curious manner. The whole family, with the exception of one little girl about three years old, were killed, and the tenderness shown to the child was quite mistaken from the point of view of safety. No clue whatever had been obtained to the murderers up till the other day, so the information runs, when the little girl, who was being carried down the street on the back of a man who had been taking care of her, suddenly

remarked that a certain man she pointed to had hurt her father. The man was immediately given in charge, and then confessed the whole story, which in most of its features was commonplace enough. The only really curious thing is that the three men who were accomplices in the act were a saké merchant, an oil merchant, and a pawnbroker, all well-known men who had been reputed honest tradesmen. It is not alleged that either had been under any suspicion of using his ostensible business as a cover for any other.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Gazette* gives currency to a statement, copied from the semi-official paper the *Nichi-nichi Shimbun*, to the effect that the court-martial, before which the mutineers of the Takebashi barracks are being tried, failing to extort confessions from the accused, have proceeded to apply torture. On the 7th instant, several prisoners were subjected to the barbarous tortures known as the *soroban-zemé* and *hako-zemé*, and it is to be supposed that this cruelty will be continued until confessions true, or statements false, are forced from them. The same native paper, of the following day's date, gave some more particulars of the barbarous practices. Five of the alleged ring-leaders, Sub-Lieutenant Yamanouchi, and Adjutants Yanada, Rika, Nakajima and Tsutsumi, have been subjected to torture in order to force from them some sort of confession which may lead to the arrest of others. Nakajima has been placed upon the *soroban*, an infernal machine somewhat similar in appearance to the calculating board in common use; the movable beads are, however, in the instrument of torture, sharp wooden spikes at regular distances apart, and on this the unfortunate victim is placed, and slowly loaded with weights. The *Hako* is, as its name imports, a box in which the person confined can neither sit, stand, nor lie. All this is going on in the capital city of Japan under the very eyes of the Ministers who profess to distribute rewards for meritorious services to the troops, and at the same time apply to others an inhuman punishment which, in the interests of humanity generally, should be put a stop to. If it should be known that the Government of Japan not only tolerate but actually practice torture upon criminals; and if the information should be conveyed to Her Majesty the Queen of England, the reception of the Japanese Minister at the next drawing-room would show him how utterly abhorrent to the English mind is this strange relic of barbarous tyranny which clings to Japan, and forms the most emphatic negative reply to any attempts to revise the Treaties by omitting extra-territoriality. Following up the terrible story, the *Gazette* of a subsequent date, notices that a statement has appeared in the *Nichi-nichi Shimbun* denying that torture has been resorted to. The *Hochi Shimbun* adds that the rumour is destitute of foundation. The *Gazette* is bound to attach some faith to this systematic withdrawal of the assertion, and its refutation by another journal, but the report has been given to the world and requires the positive, unqualified contradiction which the *Hochi Shimbun* is not in a position to give, seeing that that journal was the first to make current a rumour which is believed to rest on the sole foundation of truth, Japanese newspaper denial to the contrary notwithstanding.—By the P. & O. str. *Malacca*, accounts' sale were received giving a most unfortunate ending for the considerable shipments of Japan black leaf tea. Teas costing from one shilling and five-pence to one shilling and seven-pence per pound have been sold in London at less than one-half of those rates. It would appear that Japanese Congou has not good keeping quality, and that, when slightly

soft and out of condition, a certain rank and disagreeable flavour is developed.—On the 9th instant, at 1.20 p.m., a smart shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. A report from the U.S. Naval Hospital states that it lasted for 45 seconds.—Inquiries at H.B.M.'s Consulate, says the *Gazette*, have served to set at rest any doubts respecting the prevalence of cholera in Shanghai. Mr. Davenport telegraphed to Sir Harry Parkes on the 2nd instant as follows:—"Cholera is not prevalent or even present amongst foreigners. The last case occurred about three weeks ago. We have no epidemic whatsoever now."—This is important in connection with a notification recently issued by the Governor of Kanagawa forbidding all boatmen to bring ashore any passengers from any vessels arriving in Yokohama from Nagasaki, until the ships have been inspected by medical officers, and certified to be free from all traces of cholera, which is reported as having reappeared in Nagasaki.—From the telegram it seems clear that the disease was not imported from Shanghai, though its appearance from any cause, inherent or imported, is matter for anxiety.—The *Hiroshima Maru*, on arrival from Shanghai and way ports (including Nagasaki), was held in quarantine for about an hour, during which time an examination of the passengers and crew was made.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

September 15th.—(1) A decree referring to a case of burglary and murder reported some time since from Kirin, in which the military officer charged with the arrest of the criminals was denounced by the Governor for getting hold of the wrong persons, and was temporarily cashiered. The son of the woman upon whose house the burglary was committed, has now sent an agent with a petition to the Court of Censors bringing serious charges against the Governor in connection with this case and impeaching that officer's veracity. A special commission, consisting of two officers, Ch'ung K'i and Feng Yü, is nominated to investigate these charges with all possible despatch.

(2) A decree ordering the dismissal of one Mac, Commissary in the town of Chamdo in anterior Tibet. The inhabitants of Jaya and Chamdo took to fighting, and instead of putting a stop to it at once, he applied for troops in the most hasty and ill advised manner, hoping to gain some military distinction thereby. He further levied a discount of twenty per cent. upon the pay of these troops, for alleged expenses of transport, and compelled them to sign a bond accepting this reduction. Ting Pao-ch'eng, Governor of Szech'wan, is to send an officer at once to replace him, to make further enquiries about the application of the discount levied by the late Commissary, and ascertain what other acts of a fraudulent and improper character he may have committed.

(3) Wu Tsang-ch'eng, late Director-General of the Foochow Arsenal, reports his assumption of the acting duties of Governor of Fukkien.

(4) Pao Heng, who had been holding the above appointment previous to his nomination to the post of Financial Commissioner in Shansi, reports having given over the seals and paraphernalia of office to Wu Tsang-ch'eng.

(5) Kwang K'eh, Tartar General of Shensi, and his deputy the Lieutenant-General, appeal once more to His Majesty on the subject of the arrears of pay due to the troops under their command at Singan. In reply to a memorial on the subject in the earlier part of the year (see *Gazette* of 13th May), the Governor of Shensi was directed to consider in what manner he could best meet this demand out of the funds at his disposal. Memorialists

accordingly wrote to the Governor forwarding him the Rescript to their memorial and begging that he would give due effect to the instructions conveyed thereby. At the expiration of two months, the Governor replied stating that in consequence of last year's drought, the land tax had long since ceased to be levied, and contributions from other provinces came in with such exceeding irregularity, in spite of remonstrances and appeals for despatch, that the treasury had recently become quite empty and not a cash of receipts was coming in. Under these circumstances, after careful consideration he had come to the conclusion that he was positively unable to allot any funds to the troops. Memorialists, whose duties are of a military nature, are not thoroughly acquainted with the state of the treasury [or the conditions by which it is affected], but they do know that when they see with their own eyes the unwonted poverty and misery of the Manchu troops under their command they are moved by feelings of the deepest commiseration, and if something is not speedily done for their rescue and relief, the whole body will very possibly die from starvation. The Governor has been in Shensi for many years, and ought to be well aware of the misery that is here dilated upon; how then can he endure passively to regard the distress of the troops? It may no doubt be true that his treasury is, as he says, empty; but as rain has now providentially fallen and a good harvest is anticipated, memorialists imagine that taxation will soon once more commence, so that any funds at present deposited in the treasury might be drawn upon to rescue the soldiers from this state of misery. Memorialist Kwang K'eh having been transferred to Hangchow, it will be the duty of the newly appointed Tartar General to consult with his Lieutenant and the Governor on this matter, and they will of course report to His Majesty when a course of action has been decided upon. Rescript: Noted.

September 16th.—(1) A decree acknowledging the report of Wên Hwei and Wêng Tung-ho, the officers appointed to hold an enquiry into the circumstances of the sudden death at the Board of Punishments of one of the parties in a suit, after having been beaten upon the mouth. They find that the soldier Wên Jui, the deceased, having obstinately refused to appear when summoned by the Court, was, for his contumacy, beaten upon the mouth and died directly afterwards. Enquiry elicited the fact that death was caused, not by any illegal mode of correction, but by suffocation arising from an excess of phlegm. Be that as it may, the Secretaries conducting the case should have shown some leniency towards a sick man, and in beating him on the mouth as they did, displayed a want of due care and attention. Let Ki Shun and Feng Wei-yin be committed to the Board for the infliction of a penalty.

(2) Memorial from Kwang Show, President of the Board of Punishments, and others, submitting the penalties they have determined should be inflicted upon the Governor of Ch'ahar and other officers for their misstatements in connection with the temporary escape of a convict condemned to serve on the military post roads. (See *Gazette* of 1st September.)

(3) Memorial from the Superintending officers of the Imperial Mausolea requesting instructions on a certain matter. A communication has been received from the officers in charge of the works in connection with the Mausoleum of the late Emperor, stating that the shrine for the reception of the Buddhistic image in the two storied building flanking the Lung Ngén Tien on its eastern side, with the table and press belonging thereto, have been completed according to the specifications and estimates agreed upon, but they could find no precedent amongst the documents connected with the preparation of the Mausoleum of the

Emperor Hien Feng to guide them as to whom to apply for the copper gilt fastenings to doors, title boards, scrolls, and other appendages to be placed in the chamber. The memorialists find on referring to the archives that in the year 1866, when the Dalai Lama despatched a *Kan pu*, or abbot, with offerings to Peking, the President of the Mongolian Superintendency, a Vice-President, and a *Hut'uhk'tu* were sent with them to the Mausoleum of the Emperor Hien Feng, where the copper gilt images of Buddha, 17 in number, were reverently placed in the Buddhist chamber, and 38 pictures were suspended in the Lung Fo Sze, the Letter and *Huta* being burnt. A year later, the Office of Imperial Manufactories wrote to say that the copper gilt fastenings, boards, etc., to be placed upon the shrines and presses for the Buddhistic images, would be applied for by them from the Imperial stores. Memorialists therefore propose to adopt the same course upon the present occasion.—Rescript: Let the proper *yamen* take note.

September 17th.—(Court Circular) Yang Yü-k'o, General of the Kao-chow Brigade in Kwangtung, paid his respects upon arrival in Peking and had audience the same day. [Note.—The name of this officer will be familiar to many in connection with the investigation into the Yunnan outrage.]

(1) A decree appointing Sü K'eng-shên to the post of Director of the Court of Sacrificial Worship.

(2) The appointment of Ming Sün, Superintendent of the Imperial manufactories at Nanking, is renewed for another term.

(3) A decree consenting to an application from the Governor-General Li Hung-chang that the official biography of Han Chao, formerly acting Governor of Kwei-chow, who has recently died at his home in Chihli, shall be compiled by the State Historiographer's Office.

(4) Memorial from the Censor Tung Tsung-han on the subject of administration. Since the visitation of famine and dearth in various provinces of the Empire, numerous officials have addressed His Majesty on the subject of purification of the judicial system, and His Majesty has never failed to consent to give orders for the adoption of their suggestions. Failure to achieve the purification desired is to be attributed to the fact that the right sort of men are not employed as Magistrates of departments or districts. Litigation and imprisonment must in the first instance originate in the Magistrate's *yamen*, and were he a man of the right stamp he would give prompt hearing to any complaint that came before him, and decide it in an equitable manner, thus sparing the witnesses involved in the lawsuit the hardship and inconvenience of protracted waiting and the oppressive exactions that this would involve. Unfortunately, the bent of each Magistrate's mind is upon his private gain, and he has not the interest of the people at heart. The ordinary cases that come before him are looked upon as trivial, and he lays them aside, forgetting what he may consider trivial are matters of deep importance to the persons concerned. An official underling is feared by the peasantry as much as a tiger, and when they are drawn into litigation the men cease their husbandry and the women abandon the loom in the fear which seizes on them all. Each day that the settlement of the case is prolonged leaves the whole household a prey to anxiety, while the officials whose duty it is to protect them refuse, in their perfunctory easy-going style, to try to adjust their wrongs. The silent victims of this species of injustice throughout the Empire may be counted by tens of thousands. Amongst the numerous acts of injustice perpetrated, whether in the collection of land tax, exaction of illegal fees, or otherwise, there is nothing in which abuse is more rampant than the system that prevails at *lekin* barriers, which are regarded by

superiors and inferiors alike as a source of advantage or of gain. Articles of food or household utensils carried by the people, and even the products of household industry, are taxed on a hundred pretexts, and the slightest objections that are offered are visited with blows and imprisonment. The people gulp down their hatred and are silent in their grief, having nowhere to complain, while the *wei yuan* fills his purse at their expense and gets credit for capacity and ability. The memorial concludes with an appeal to His Majesty to give orders for a thorough and genuine reform in the matters complained of.

(5) The Director-General of the Yellow River reports that the dangers attendant upon the sudden rise in the waters of the Yellow River and the streams by which it is fed have been satisfactorily overcome.

(6) Wên Pin, Director-General of the Grain Transport, similarly reports the termination, without mishap, of the period of the summer freshets in the Grand Canal.

September 18th.—(1) A decree. Mei K'i-chao reports the issue of operations against certain bad characters inhabiting an island in his jurisdiction, the capture of the ringleader and others of the gang, and the punishment that has been severally inflicted upon them. One Kin K'i-lan, a bad character and a [notorious] criminal, residing on the island of Ta K'ü-shan in the jurisdiction of Ting-hai; in the province of Ch'ehkiang, having resisted the survey and measurement of his land, the boundaries of which he refused to point out, the sub-Prefect under whose jurisdiction the island was, went with a force to suppress the rising he had created and arrest him. He then had the audacity to attack and do violence to these troops, joining forces with certain pirates and opposing the advance of the troops from a position he had taken up in the hills. Hwang Shao-ch'un, provincial Commander-in-chief, then sent a detachment under the command of Brigade-General Kwoh Ting-yu, who went down with them and his own brigade to attack the insurgents. A number of these were killed, the ringleader Kin K'i-lan was captured alive and order finally restored. The action taken may be considered prompt and satisfactory, and We hereby command Mei K'i-hao to instruct the Taotai of Ningpo to extract from [the ringleader] a full and accurate confession of his crime, after which he will inflict the full penalty of the law upon him. He will at the same time instruct the sub-Prefect of Ting-hai to afford comfort and solace to the well-disposed of the inhabitants, and make fit and proper arrangements for the survey of the land for taxation. Let a button of the third grade be bestowed upon Ch'eng Pang-kan, sub-Prefect of T'ai-chow, and Chang K'üan-ying, expectant sub-Prefect, who have displayed energy on this occasion; and let Hung Ting-fan, Lieutenant of the Ting-hai garrison, with Wu T'ing-wei, military *Sin-t'ai*, who lost their lives in the fray, be committed to the Board for the determination of the marks of compassion which the law allots them.

(2) Memorial from Ts'üan Ts'ing and Shang Tsung-jui, principal and secondary superintendent respectively of the Customs and octroi of Peking, forwarding a return of the duties collected by them during their year of office. In announcing a large deficit on the supplementary assessment, they explain that this is attributable to the falling off in trade consequent upon the famine in the Northern provinces which has caused great depression and entailed serious loss of capital. It follows that the source of supplies being stopped, revenue receipts were correspondingly diminished, and this diminution was further aggravated by the cessation of all distilling of spirits, one of the great tax paying staples, while no revenue is derived from foreign goods, which pay duty at Tientsin. Another circumstance that has con-

tributed to the depression is the succession of heavy rains at the close of the summer, which rendered the roads impassable to carts and reduced the daily receipts to ten or twenty taels, the smallest amount that has been taken for some years past. During the twelve months ending on the 2nd of the 8th month, the following amounts were collected:—

Regular Assessment	Tls. 102,187
Supplementary do.	„ 63,987

Making a total of Tls. 166,174

which is Tls. 148,789 short on the supplementary assessment. The memorialist Ts'üan Ts'ing begs further to report that as his left eye is troubling him he has applied for a month's leave.—Rescript: Let the Board of Revenue consider the subject of the deficiencies reported by Ts'üan Ts'ing and his colleague, and memorialise thereon.

(3) In a separate memorial the above officers submit a return of duties on foreign opium collected by them during their period of office. They amount in all to Tls. 8,334 to which has to be added a further sum of Tls. 259 for maintenance money. There is a balance of Tls. 18 on the fines and confiscation account.

September 19th.—(1) A decree granting permission to T'eng Yu-t'ê, General of the Chao T'ung brigade in Yunnan, to vacate his post on the ground of ill-health.

(2) A decree directing Chang Tsung-lung, General of the T'eng Yüeh (Momein) brigade in Yunnan, to proceed at once to his post, the Governor of the province having complained of his dilatoriness in taking up his appointment.

(3) Sü Ch'ang 續昌 is appointed Intendant of the Kin Shan Hai circuit in F'eng-tien, and Yü K'un 裕昆 is to succeed him as Intendant of the Pa Ch'ang circuit in Chihli.

(4) A decree expressing the Imperial regrets at the intelligence of the death of Li Ming-hwei, General of the Lin Yuan brigade in Yunnan, who succumbed to the effects of climate after a long and distinguished military career. The posthumous honors awarded to Provincial Commanders-in-chief who have achieved a brilliant reputation are to be accorded to him, and memorial temples are to be erected to him in his native place and at the scene of his military exploits. Yang Ch'ang-ch'un 楊長春 is to succeed him.

(5) An apologetic memorial from Mei K'i-chao, Governor of Ch'ehkiang and the Superintendent of the Imperial manufactories, who have been severely called to account in an Imperial decree for their protracted delay in the completion of an order for 5,000 catties of velvet and velvet cord for the Imperial carriage trappings, in the face of repeated applications for them from the *Yamen* concerned in this matter. The memorialists admit the receipt of repeated demands for the completion of this order, and remind His Majesty that they had applied for permission to purchase the materials requisite for the manufacture of the articles at the prices ruling this year, and, this having been obtained, they were proceeding to put the work in hand when orders came from the Board of Works for an immediate supply of silk, satin, and other materials for use at the Mausolea of Their late Majesties the Emperor and Empress, and this last demand being of the greater moment, the first was made subservient to it. On reference to the Financial Commissioner, that officer stated that the funds for the purchase of the requisite materials had to be drawn from the land-tax, but unfortunately the revenue from this source was in a far from flourishing condition, the exchequer being, into the bargain, much strained just at that time from the necessity for forwarding

the third instalment of the contingent for the capital, and contributions to the famine provinces, with other heavy charges. Under the pressure of this indescribable embarrassment, the utmost it was in the power of the Treasurer to do was to find funds for the completion of one of the orders, and preference was given to the most important, Tls. 30,000 being provided at the cost of strenuous effort. Positive orders will now be given for the appropriation of Tls. 30,000 more for the purchase of materials for the execution of the first order, and as the Board have not replied to an application from the memorialists for permission to purchase these materials at the present rates, they must, in view of the urgency of the case, take upon themselves to do so without waiting for this permission.—Rescript: Noted.

(6) Yü Lu, Governor of An-hwei, reports that, it having occurred to him that Ta-tung in that province being the centre of the salt trade and a place of great commercial activity, it was right that contributions for the famine fund should be set on foot there, directed the head of the salt office at that place, one Hwang Tsu-lo by name, to set the contributions on foot. His mother having heard of the duty that was entrusted to her son, addressed the following words to him: "Our family for generations past have been the recipients of our country's bounty, and I, now 74 years of age, little thought that the calamitous drought in Shansi would have reached such a stage as this. You having now been honored with a commission to organise a contribution agency, must be the first to set an example, or how will you be in a position to exhort and admonish others to come forward with subscriptions? My family having always acted with strict official integrity, have been able to put by much. Do you therefore sell my clothes and trinkets that I may show to the utmost the sincerity of my gratitude and compassion." The son did as his mother told him, and was enabled in consequence to realise Tls. 1,000, which he begged might be added to the Shansi fund. His mother directed him not to apply for any honorary reward, as his deceased father late Director General of the Yellow River, had already been invested with a posthumous patent of rank, but memorialist considered that it would not be right to refrain from bringing to His Majesty's notice so laudable an act of charity. He suggests that a memorial structure be erected to the mother and a complimentary tablet with the usual inscription be granted to her.—Rescript: Let the proper Board take note.

September 20th.—(1) The Governor-General of Min Cheh and the Acting-Governor of Fukien, report the arrival of three distressed Lewchewans from Canton, who had been wrecked on the coast of Kwantung, and sent on to the Governor-General of that province. According to their own statement, they had started from Napa in Lewchew in a small vessel laden with tea, salt, thread, flour, and seaweed, for one of the smaller islands of the archipelago, and had been blown out into the open sea during a gale they encountered, which drove them on the Kwantung coast, where their boat struck upon a rock and broke up. They swam ashore, and were kindly treated by the authorities, who sent them on overland to Canton. Two of their number died on the journey and were buried at the place of their decease, and the three survivors were sent on by steamer to Foochow. The usual allowance of rations has been served out to them, and an opportunity will be found of sending them back to their own country.

(2) Tso Tsung-t'ang reports the successful results of a search for the remains of Chang Tsing and Ming Sü, former Military-Governors of Ili, the traces of which had been lost since the capture of the town by the rebels. A captain in the army was sent to Ili by the present

Commander-in-chief at Urumtsi, to make private enquiries, and he now reports that he succeeded in obtaining information pointing to a vegetable garden attached to a certain temple as the spot in which the remains of Chang Tsing, were deposited at the time of his death; and on turning up the earth an imperfect skeleton was found from which all the flesh had decayed. He also learned upon enquiry in the town of Ili, that Ming Sü, when the town fell into the hands of the rebels, had ordered his woman servant to collect the barrels of gunpowder that remained, and after telling his two sons to try and make their escape, blew himself up with his wife. The two sons, loth to leave their parents, were destroyed in the fire that the explosion caused. The commandant of the force subsequently caused search to be made amongst the ruins of the building, and all the bones that could be found were collected and hurriedly buried together, as it was impossible to sort them, in a spot within the walls which was pointed out to the captain, who placed them in a box and brought them with the remains of Chang Tsing to Urumtsi, from whence they were sent on to Su-chow with the coffin of Ying Han, late Military Governor of the former place. The memorialist having no documents with him at his temporary abode by which he can discover to what particular banner the deceased officers severally belonged, or what was the maiden name of Ming Sü's wife or the names of his two sons, begs that His Majesty will cause the relatives of these persons to be instructed to take charge of the several remains upon their arrival at the place in which their respective banners are located. (See *Gazette* of 7th September.)

Public Meetings.

THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT—PUBLIC MEETING.

A public meeting of residents, convened by the Municipal Council at the request of the officers of the Volunteers, was held Monday, at 2.30 p.m., at the Municipal Offices, "to consider the present condition of the Corps, and to take such measures as may seem most advisable in order to restore it to its former state of efficiency." Among those present were Messrs. J. Hart, R. Mackenzie, G. Withers, P. G. Hübbe (Members of the Municipal Council.) A. Davenport (H.M.'s Consul), E. Ward, Sharp, Caldbeck, Sim, Ward, Milsom, Cheetham, Veitch, Dallas, Harding, Vinay, E. W. Rice, J. M. Cory, Daniel, Dallas, Sutherland, Rohl, Huchting, Fabris, Harvie, Holliday, Tucker, Yeo, Donaldson, Limby, Birt, Preston, E. H. Webb, Groom, Little (Dr.) Reynolds, Hague, Price, Pond, Stewart, Bolton, Thirkell, C. Thorne, E. H. Gore-Booth, Nils Möller, Vale, Krauss, Buchanan, Pugh, McMillan, Rivington, Silverthorne, Mody, Schuffenhauer, and Anderson.

Mr. HART, Chairman of the Municipal Council and the Major of the existing Volunteer Company, proposed that Mr. Davenport, H.M.'s Consul at Shanghai, take the chair.

Mr. MACKENZIE seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Hübbe, Mr. Pond was appointed Secretary of the meeting.

Mr. HART then said—Gentlemen, the object for which we have met to-day is in my opinion a very important one for this community; and, therefore, I should be glad to submit to you a few preliminary remarks on the subject. I think most residents will agree with me in thinking that a Volunteer Corps is a necessity in Shanghai. It was found to be exceedingly useful in the past, and should you decide to maintain it, I am sure you will all

agree in saying it will be equally useful in the future. The knowledge that there are in your midst a number of men used to carry arms and well disciplined, will at all times impart an immense amount of confidence; and in the case of a sudden emergency, it is well to know that we have in our midst a number of men who are prepared and willing to do what is necessary to restore order. No doubt in this Settlement, where the community is constantly changing, great difficulties are experienced in the maintenance of a Corps at its full establishment, but if some of the gentlemen—and there are among them many young and able men—who have occasionally honoured the Volunteers with their presence on parade as spectators, and possibly criticised the movements, would take it into their heads to join the Corps, I think this difficulty would be at once obviated. In 1870, or some time before I came here, I believe the Volunteer Corps was reorganised. At all events at that time four companies were established, and each company was to consist of sixty rank and file. Since then No. 3 Company, which was for some time commanded by Mr. Tucker, and afterwards by Mr. Yeo, has ceased to exist. No doubt both these officers, who are good and able men, did their best to keep the company together, but from what I have been told by Mr. Tucker and Mr. Yeo they found it impracticable to do so. No. 1 Company and the Mih-ho-loongs, as you are aware, were, in 1870, to be sixty rank and file. Since then the numbers have gradually diminished until at the present moment they number respectively thirty-one and thirty-five members, and of these, I suspect, you can only calculate on twenty as regular attendants at drill. No. 1 Company has had very good Captains, Mr. Holliday and Mr. Sim, and both these gentlemen, while the company was under their command, did their utmost to secure recruits for the ranks to fill vacancies arising from members going home or from other causes, but they were unsuccessful, and at no time since 1873 has the Company been up to its full strength. Since 1874 I have never known it to turn out more than fifteen files, and at the present time it is down to thirty-one members. A very favourable company was the Mih-ho-loongs. It is a Company with excellent officers, who have done all in their power to induce men to join their ranks, but they assure me that they could not induce men to join. As regards the Rangers, in 1870 they turned out on parade forty-eight men, and at the present time the strength of the troop is supposed to be twelve effective men nominally. Captain Dallas has told me that he has on his list twelve men, including himself, for a decent Volunteer Battery, but for two guns and a Gatling gun there should be thirty men at the least. I have now given you the position of the Corps, with regard to its strength, which can hardly be said to be satisfactory. The officers of the companies have done their best to secure recruits, but on account mainly of other amusements, and perhaps the lack of excitement, they have not been very successful. No. 2 Company, however, has been more fortunate. It musters over sixty rank and file (applause), but you must bear in mind that its members are peculiarly situated. As I understand it, many of them do not take much interest in other amusements; probably they don't play racquets and lawn tennis; they don't hunt, and they don't enter into other amusements so much as the members of the other Companies. At all events No. 2 Company is at a very good strength, but owing to the avocation of most of its member, it is not at all times possible to bring them out when the other Companies are prepared to drill; they find it difficult to turn out at five or half-past five, their favourite hour for parade and drill being at night, and that does not suit the other

members of the Corps. Probably the members of No. 2 Company cannot get away from their offices, or their employers don't see their way to give them leave; but at all events it is a fact that there has always been a difficulty to get them to turn out at five or half-past five, and at the last parade there were very few out of the sixty present, but on the last occasion when there was a Company drill at night, Captain Harvie has told me that forty-seven attended, which was very good. Now, in a community like this, gentlemen, I think a battalion of three Companies, at least of sixty rank and file each, should easily be supported; but it has been tried by excellent officers and not succeeded on the part of No. 1 Company and the Mih-ho-loongs. These Companies have fallen off, and I would recommend that they amalgamate; but in any scheme that you may decide to carry out or adopt, I would strongly urge uniformity of clothing. Hitherto each company has been differently dressed. This has been a great mistake for many reasons, but mainly and chiefly for purposes of drill. As regards the Municipal Council, I am sure I need not assure you that the Volunteer Corps will always command the support of that body. The Council has never been sparing with the funds of the community in assisting the movement as best they could, the annual amount spent upon it being from Tls. 2,000 to Tls. 2,500. At present, we have 500 stand of arms, all Martini-Henry, out of which 205 may be looked upon as the latest and best pattern. As regards the ammunition, the supply to each man is 60 rounds of ball cartridges a year, and in fact there is seldom a charge made, and the supply is very liberal. The Band expenses were formerly borne by the Volunteers themselves, but now they are entirely borne by the community through the Council. Lately, the ammunition used, I am sorry to say, has not been so good as it might have been. We found a difficulty at the end of last year and in the beginning of this year in obtaining ball ammunition from England, owing to the war in Europe; and our agent did not find it practicable to obtain a supply so quickly as we could desire. It was suggested to us that a supply could be obtained more readily from a private firm here. We applied and obtained 50,000 rounds, but after it was tried I learnt from the report of Mr. Sim, who is an excellent officer as the Musketry Instructor, and from Mr. Glass, the Assistant Musketry Instructor, and from other men also, that it had not proved to be as good as could be desired. The cartridges were badly made, some rusty, and the powder weak, and in many instances the sight of the rifles had to be raised beyond the usual limit to shoot properly. However, since then the Council have obtained a proper supply from its own agent, and I am glad to be able to tell you that it is of very good quality. I don't think I have much more to say. I may mention, however, that the officers of the Mih-ho-loongs have resigned, and the only officer remaining of No. 1 Company has also resigned. I presume they resigned so that the Corps should not be in the least hampered in any scheme of reorganisation that may be proposed in electing officers. As regards myself, I have commanded long enough and found it necessary to resign also, and you will have no difficulty in finding a younger man to fill my place. Before I sit down, I beg to propose—

That in the opinion of this meeting a Volunteer Corps is necessary, and in furtherance of this object it is proposed that lists should be opened at the Council Offices for one week for signature by those who are willing to join the Corps.

Mr. MACKENZIE seconded the motion.

Mr. RICE briefly pointed out that the rules of No. 1 Company and the Mih-ho-loongs were different, and he failed to

see that they could amalgamate. Members were balloted for.

Mr. HOLLIDAY said he presumed the new Corps would be entirely independent of the old organisations, that the object was to form a brand new Corps, it being in the province of the Council to disband the existing one. The present organisation was more or less a failure, and he thought the men belonging to it would scarcely know what to do; they were in the dark as to what the future Corps was to be. From the terms of the resolution, he took it that the idea was to have a single Corps, and that the men belonging to it would not belong to No. 1 or 2 Company, or the Mih-ho-loongs, but to the Corps. Originally, he believed, the existing Corps was one single whole. It was one Corps composed of a number of Companies, but the men belonged to the Corps and not to the Companies, whereas now the men belonged to the Companies and not to the Corps. It might be considered invidious on his part, but it was his firm belief that when the Mih-ho-loongs were allowed to join the Corps, as an independent Company, great harm was done, (hear hear.) No doubt the Mih-ho-loongs were a fine body of men when taken altogether, but he was of the opinion that it would have been wise on the part of the then Municipal Council to have declined their services as an independent company, and told them that if they wished to join they must do so as the others had done. (Cheers.) Another injury, which the Corps suffered, was the change of the uniform of No. 1 Company. When that company applied to the Council for permission to change its uniform, the Council should have said "No, we can only allow one style of uniform." He was aware the idea was to get the whole of the battalion to adopt the same style of uniform, but that should have been agreed upon and definitely decided before No. 1 Company made an independent change. He had often explained what his idea of a Corps ought to be, and he would repeat what he had already said. In his opinion there should be a single Corps, and it ought to be so organised that regular days could be fixed for drill. There might be a Company drill once a week or once a fortnight, and a battalion drill every fortnight. Then the members would know what they had to do, and learn their drill; and if a single Corps was put on a definite footing, and there were regular drills, members would be more likely to join. If the resolution remained as it was, he was afraid men would be in the dark as to the future Company and hardly know what to do.

Mr. HART said Mr. Holliday spoke of the Corps and its Companies too, and his proposal seemed to be the same as the Corps was at present, or it would come to the same in the end.

Mr. HOLLIDAY replied that the Companies at present had different rules, and the men belonged to the Companies and not to the Corps.

Mr. HART said it was impossible in his opinion to have a Battalion, unless they had different Companies.

Mr. GROOM remarked that in the old organisation, before the Mih-ho-loongs was formed, there was just the same difference between No. 1 and No. 2 Companies as there was at the present time. They had different officers, and they drilled at different times; and there was the same difference then as now.

Mr. TUCKER pointed out that formerly the officers were selected from the whole Battalion, and not from a Company. He was a member of No. 1 Company, and was elected by the battalion to be Lieutenant of No. 2, and that was the way in which he was transferred from one company to the other. Every member belonged to the Rifle Brigade, and they were all under the same head and the same regulations.

Mr. HART inquired how long ago it was that Mr. Tucker was transferred from No. 1 to No. 2 Company.

Mr. TUCKER.—In 1871 or 1872.

Mr. HART thought it must have been prior to 1870.

Mr. TUCKER was not sure as to the year, but he was elected Lieutenant of No. 2 Company by the whole Battalion when he belonged to No. 1 Company.

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. HART said assuming a sufficient number of men came forward and signed the lists—and he hoped a sufficient number would come forward—merely to put at rest the doubtful question as to the uniform, he would propose:—

That in the opinion of this meeting one style of uniform should be worn by the whole Volunteer Corps.

Mr. HÜBBE seconded the motion.

Mr. RICE inquired whether present Volunteers, if they put down their names on the list, would belong to the new organisation or to the old one.

Mr. HART said the Chairman had authorised him to answer Mr. Rice's question. He apprehended the matter would rest in this way. The present organisation would still prevail, but everything hinged on whether the lists, which would be placed in the Council's offices, were signed so numerous that the Council would be sure the Corps would be established. If they were not so signed, it would be foolishness on the part of the Council to destroy or disband the present nucleus of a Corps, which could be availed of in a case of disturbance, and to which numbers of other men who have passed through the ranks would immediately flock.

Mr. RICE.—Is it proposed that the members of the present Volunteer Corps should sign or not.

Mr. HART.—I should say so. As I said before, the thing rests on a sufficient number of signatures to show the Council that a Corps could be established, in a degree superior to the one that now exists. Until the Council see this can be done, I think it would be stupid to disband the existing Corps. This was the view he thought the Council would take of the matter.

Mr. GROOM asked whether the opinion of those present—a very small portion of the community—was to be taken as representing the wishes of the community, as regarded the Volunteer movement? Would it not be better to adjourn the meeting to an hour at which a great many more of the residents would be able to attend? Half-past two o'clock, was, as it had been shown, an inconvenient hour for many persons to attend, and he thought that if the meeting was adjourned to another day at five o'clock in the afternoon, that it would be more numerous attended, and that the opinion then given would have much greater force and be more in accordance with the wishes of the community. Four-fifths of the number now present were Volunteers already, belonging to some Company; and what they wanted was the opinion of those who were not Volunteers, the opinion of "The Home Guard," the gentlemen who obliged the Corps by looking on at their parades, but who would not join the ranks. It was the opinion of these men that was wanted, not the opinion of the Volunteers themselves.

The CHAIRMAN.—Do you intend to wind up with a motion?

Mr. GROOM said he would move a motion that the meeting be adjourned.

Mr. HART and Mr. MACKENZIE thought they would not get another meeting to be so well attended as the present one.

Mr. GROOM thought otherwise, and begged to move—

That the present meeting be adjourned, until Friday, the 8th November, at 5.30 p.m.

Captain HARVIE seconded the motion, and it was carried with five dissentients. The meeting then dispersed.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Council Room, 17, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday the 21st October, 1878, at 9.30 o'clock a.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. Hart (chairman), R. H. Artindale, G. J. W. Cowie, P. G. Hübbe, E. H. Lavers, E. G. Low, R. Mackenzie, J. H. Wisner, G. Withers, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting are read, confirmed, signed, and passed for publication.

The Cash Statement, for the week ending 19th instant, is submitted for inspection, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

General Municipal Rate.—The following statement is submitted:—

GENERAL MUNICIPAL RATE—FOREIGN.
September Quarter.

Houses Assessed.	1877	Rental.	1878	Rental.	Increase	Decrease
Foreign Settlement	341	428,357	355	417,547	14	10,810
Hongkew Settlement	181	95,223	205	87,658	24	7,565
Total..	522	523,580	560	505,205	38	18,375
Occupied by Foreigners..	453	..	470	..	..	..
Occupied by Natives ..	26	..	40	..	..	..
Empty	43	..	50	..	..	..
Total Assessments	..	523,580	..	505,205	..	18,375
Taxes Collected..	..	6,683	..	6,885	..	98

Roundling Corner Hankow and Szechuen Roads.—Widening Hankow Road between Szechuen Road and Bund.—Letters submitted from Messrs. Maitland & Co. stating the terms upon which they will allow of the rounding of the corner at junction of Hankow and Szechuen Roads, and that they will ascertain from the owners whether they will surrender, at the assessed value, a strip of land for widening the Hankow Road.

Decided to accept the offer of corner of Hankow and Szechuen Roads on the terms mentioned.

Woochang Road—Whang-poo Road.—Surrender of land for foot-paths. It is decided to accept the offer contained in the following letter from the Japanese Consul-General:—

Shanghai, 17th October, 1878.

SIR,—With reference to a conversation I had this morning with Mr. Clark, the Municipal Surveyor, in regard to the boundary line of the Lot of land on Hongkew, known as Howard's Wharf, and on which the new Japanese Consulate will be built, I beg to inform you that I am perfectly willing to give up sufficient space of the said land, to have pathways made in the Whampoa and Woochang Roads and to straighten the boundary line in the Whampoa Road, so as to conform with the present street line, if the Municipal Council agree to form the projected two pathways, and to keep them in order.

I request you to lay this matter before the Municipal Council for consideration, and to let me have an early reply.

Accompanying I beg to hand you a plan, which shows the intended alterations.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

E. SHINAGAWA,
Consul-General.

R. F. THORBURN Esq.,
Secretary of the Municipal Council,
Shanghai.

Volunteers.—Decided to call a public Meeting for Monday, the 28th instant, at 2.30 o'clock p.m., to take into consideration the state of the Corps.

French Gas Company. Application for Permission to lay Mains in this Settlement.—The following letter is submitted, and reply as under agreed upon:—

Shanghai, 12th October, 1878.

SIR,—Your letter dated September 30th was duly received and laid before the Directors.

I have been requested to inform you that their wish at present is to receive the necessary authority to lay their mains on the Bund, in Szechuen and Kiangse Roads, as far as Nankiang Road and in Sunkiang, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Kiukiang and Nanking Roads, as far as Kiangse Road.

It is more than probable that circumstances will lead us to ask the extension of every one of these lines before long, but, while it is of interest to your Council to know that our idea is to extend our mains wherever we shall see that Gas is wanted, it is also necessary for us to receive some fixed authority, without which it would not be prudent for our Company to go to the expense of getting out the extra amount of plant which will be required.

I need not add that this can be obtained with great rapidity by sending telegraphic orders to Europe, the more so that a great part of the measurements have already been made some time since.

Believe me, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ED. MOREL,
Chairman.

J. HART, Esq.,
Chairman of the Municipal Council
of the Foreign Settlement North of the
Yang-king-pang, Shanghai.

Shanghai, 21st October, 1878.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 12th instant, mentioning in detail the various roads in this Settlement in which the French Gas Company request permission to lay their mains.

In reply, I beg to say that the matter has received the best consideration of the Council, but as they feel that it is a question of great importance to the community, they would prefer, before coming to any decision, that it should be referred to the Ratepayers by your Company.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

J. HART,
Chairman.

To E. MOREL, Esq.,
Chairman, French Gas Company,
Shanghai.

ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA
CONCESSION FRANÇAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 22 Octobre, 1878, sous la présidence de M. E. Millot. Conseillers présents:—M. M. G. Bluntschli, H. Vinay, and H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Consulat de Portugal.—Communication d'une lettre de M. José da Silva, informant le Conseil que, nommé Consul de 1ère classe à Shanghai, il a pris charge du Consulat de Portugal depuis le 9 Septembre, 1878.

Nourriture des prisonniers.—A la demande de M. le Consul-Général de France, le Conseil décide d'améliorer la nourriture des prisonniers chinois détenus dans les prisons de la municipalité.

Salubrité publique.—Le Conseil prend en considération une pétition par laquelle plusieurs résidents de la Concession appellent son attention sur l'action nuisible à la santé causée par le déversement dans le Yang-king-pang des résidus de couleurs employées par les teinturiers. En conséquence, il charge le Chef de la Garde d'inviter ces industriels à ne plus jeter leurs eaux de teintures dans ce canal.

Brigades de Pompiers.—Lecture est donnée de la lettre suivante des Officiers de la Compagnie de Pompiers No. 6:—

Shanghai, le 19 Octobre, 1878.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT.—Les officiers de la Compagnie Française de la Pompe à vapeur No. 6, ont l'honneur de vous adresser la requête suivante en faveur de l'un de leurs camarades, blessé dans un des derniers incendies.

Le 22 Décembre, 1877, un feu considérable détruisait en quelques heures la maison Muller & Fisher dans le Nanking road de la Concession Anglaise. La Pompe à vapeur No. 6

arrivait sur les lieux dès le début, et M. Babey en lui faisant prendre position, pour placer le tuyau d'aspiration, tomba si malheureusement qu'il se cassa la jambe.

Au nom de toute la Compagnie, dont ils sont heureux d'être les interprètes, pour témoigner à leur brave camarade qu'ils n'ont pas oublié le malheureux accident dont il a été victime, ils viennent solliciter de la générosité du Conseil l'allocation d'une indemnité qui serait prélevée sur la caisse secours des pompiers.

Ils se permettent, Monsieur le Président, d'appuyer leur demande avec d'autant plus d'instances, qu'ils doivent rappeler, avec peine il est vrai, que M. Babey après avoir été forcé pendant six mois de garder la chambre, n'a pas encore recouvré et ne recouvrera peut-être jamais complètement le libre usage de sa jambe.

Ils sont avec respect, Monsieur le Président, vos très humbles et très dévoués serviteurs,

Le Capitaine,
(Signé) A. THEILLON.
Le 1er Lieutenant,
A. LEGRAS.
Le 2ème Lieutenant,
G. LAJEAT.

Monsieur E. MILLOT,
Président du Conseil Municipal.

Le Conseil s'associant aux sentiments qui ont dicté cette lettre, le Président y a répondu en ces termes:—

Shanghai, le 28 Octobre, 1878.

MESSIEURS,—J'ai l'honneur de vous adresser réception de votre lettre du 19 courant, et, le Conseil, à qui j'en ai donné connaissance, m'a chargé de vous informer que la demande qu'elle contenait en faveur de M. Babey, a été favorablement accueillie, et qu'une indemnité de 200 Taels lui a été accordée.

Le Conseil regrette toutefois de ne pouvoir disposer d'une somme plus forte, mais il pense que par l'intermédiaire du "Fire department" la Brigade de Pompiers pourrait obtenir de la générosité des intéressés à la protection de l'immeuble qui a été la cause de l'accident, un supplément d'indemnité qui semble en quelque sorte dû au dévouement montré par M. Babey qui en a été victime.

Veillez agréer, Messieurs, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

Le Président du Conseil,
(Signé) E. MILLOT.

Messieurs les Officiers de la Cie.
Française de la Pompe No. 6.

Compagnie du Gaz.—Le Président est prié d'accuser réception de la lettre par laquelle la Compagnie du Gaz informe le Conseil que, pour augmenter la consommation du Gaz et pouvoir par la suite en diminuer le prix, elle a demandé au "Municipal Council" l'autorisation d'étendre sa canalisation au delà du Yang-king-pang.

Personnel du Secrétariat.—Le Conseil nomme au poste de Percepteur M. L. Guieu, en remplacement de M. Sauné, décédé.

Cessions de terrain.—Le Conseil fixe le prix des indemnités à offrir à la Société de Jésus et à la Congrégation des Lazaristes pour la cession de diverses parcelles de terrain nécessaires à l'élargissement des rues Montauban, Colbert et du Consulat.

Approbation des rapports du Médecin, des chefs de service et de l'Inspecteur des marchés.

La séance est levée.

Amusements.

S.R.C. AUTUMN REGATTA.

Captain..... A. C. WESTALL, Esq.
Judges..... { J. J. TUCKER, Esq.
Capt. Z. BARTON.
Umpire..... Rev. F. C. STEBBING, R.N.
Starter..... P. K. DUMARCO, Esq.
Sub-Committee.. { Capt. G. B. HILL.
A. VITCH, Esq.
E. W. REICE, Esq.

FIRST DAY,

Friday, 25th October, 1878.

The Autumn Regatta of the Shanghai Rowing Club was commenced to-day over the usual course on the Soochow

Creek, and will be resumed this afternoon. The morning broke bright and warm, and in the forenoon the sun shone brilliantly; but towards noon the sky became overcast and there were ominous indications that the reunion would not be favoured with anything like the genial, sunny weather of last year, when crowds of residents availed themselves of the occasion for a holiday on the banks of the Creek. Between twelve and one o'clock it commenced to rain, not in a heavy downpour, but in a persistent drizzle which continued throughout the entire afternoon, with occasional brief, heavy showers, which marred all enjoyment and caused some of the best oarsmanship that the Club has ever displayed to be exhibited in the presence of only a few, whereas, under more favourable auspices, it would have received the admiration and plaudits of a great portion of the residents of the Settlements. Mr. Miller's residence and grounds, one of the best coigns of vantage to see the races, were again placed at the disposal of the Ladies, the members of the Club and their friends, but the attendance was meagre in comparison with the large and gay assembly of last year, though not a few availed themselves of Mr. Miller's hospitality, including a fair sprinkling of ladies. For their delectation a band, under the baton of M. Bernard, was present, and played a choice selection of music, embracing pieces from some of the most popular composers. At the Boathouse there was a fair number of spectators, and the Mound, opposite the finishing post, having been covered in to shelter the Judges from the rain, was also availed of by a few, while here and there along the banks of the creek might be seen straggling groups of gentlemen protected by waterproofs and umbrellas. So far as the spectators were concerned they were neither numerous nor high-spirited, while the competing members of the Club retained their characteristic zest and ardour, and a veteran in the sport described the day as favourable for rowing and preferable to hot weather, as the rain kept the men cool and comparatively fresh.

The first race was announced to commence punctually at one o'clock. It would be contrary, however, to the reputation of boating, or any other pleasurable enterprise in Shanghai, for punctuality to be considered the soul of business; and, as usual, the first race was fully half-an-hour late. It was the Men-of-War's boat race, and though there were five vessels in port only one of them was represented, namely, the French corvette *Cosmao*, which sent two fourteen-oared launches with good crews. It was said H.M.'s *Charvèis* did not send a crew because she has not a suitable boat for them to row in; the United States corvette *Monongahela* was expected to leave for Japan during the afternoon; and the German gunboat *Cyclop*, which only arrived on Wednesday, did not receive notice of the race in time for her to send a crew; and the same applies to the French gunboat *Lynx*. These were the reasons for the paucity of entrants, and no one seemed to feel the disappointment more than the two crews from the *Cosmao*, who, under the circumstances, had to row alone for the honours of the race, but, notwithstanding, the contest between them was most plucky throughout.

The "International" was a splendid race. The crews took the water pretty evenly, and though the English were leading slightly nearing the first bend, rounding it the Scotch, having the inside place, regained their position, and from this point down to the winning post, the boats raced "neck and neck," there never being more than half a length between them, and finally the English were declared the winners by four feet and a half. A more extended notice of the race appears below, and it is only necessary to add here that we believe it was the keenest contest

between Internationalist crews in Shanghai since 1865, when the English boat carried off the prize by two feet. As the race is one of the principal sporting events in Shanghai, and has attached to it more than ordinary interest, we append the results, as we did last year, since 1870:—

Winners.	Min. Secs.
1871.—Scotch.....	8.11
1872.—".....	time not taken
1873.—".....	8.01
1874.—".....	9.20
1875.—English.....	8.02
1876.—Scotch.....	8.50½
1877.—English.....	8.37
1878.—".....	8.15

The race for the Ladies' Purse was contested in heats, resulting finally in a race between C. R. Sellers and Tom Brown for the prize. The former won easily, and subsequently had the purse presented to him by Mrs. Holliday, at Mr. Miller's house, with a little pleasant ceremonial.

The Griffins' Plate was a keenly contested race between crews styling themselves the *Kids* and the *Lambs*. A new feature in connection therewith was that it was rowed in light Shanghai built boats, instead of heavy ones. The *Kids* won by a quarter of a length after a most exciting finish from the Boathouse.

The next race, between the Committee of the Club and the Club members, was equally interesting and the finish remarkably good. The Club carried off the prize by an advantage of three-quarters of a length at the winning post.

The Double Sculling Race was easily won by Hall and Hunter, who had practised with great regularity and perseverance, their opponents being Messrs. O. M. Wyatt and J. Andrew. This event brought the day's sport to a close, a Club eight-oar scratch race being abandoned, owing to darkness coming on before it could be rowed.

The following is the result of the various races, together with a fuller description thereof:—

MEN-OF-WAR'S BOAT RACE.—No entrance fee. First boat, \$15; Second, \$5. Nosecond prize unless three start. Distance, 1½ miles.

Entries were made at the start, and out of about half a dozen men-of-war in port only the French corvette *Cosmao* sent two crews—fourteen-oared launches, and a pluckily contested race took place between them. *Red* got a slight advantage at the start, and soon took the leading position. At the one mile starting post *Red* had increased her lead to two lengths, and took their opponents' water, giving them the wash. The latter struggled gamely but without success, and passing the Boathouse they had a disadvantage of nearly three lengths, *Red* winning easily.

MERCHANTS' PLATE.—Eight Cups. Presented by the Merchants of Shanghai. Challenge Eight-Oar. Scotland v. England. Distance, 1½ miles. Entry-money, \$40 per Boat.

1.—ENGLISH CREW.— St. George's Cross.	2.—SCOTCH CREW.— St. Andrew's Cross.
st. lbs.	st. lbs.
Bow—J. C. Bois.....	10 4
2—J. M. Cory.....	10 10
3—J. P. Cheetham.....	11 7
4—T. Brown.....	10 10
5—A. Burrows.....	12 12
6—J. W. Innocent.....	11 8
7—C. W. Holliday.....	12 8
Stroke—O. M. Wyatt.....	11 12
Cox—C. Dowdall.....	9 4
Bow—C. J. Dudgeon.....	10 4
2—J. W. Shepherd.....	11 5
3—W. M. Primrose.....	10 5
4—J. C. Johnston.....	12 4
5—G. Mackenzie.....	14 4
6—Sir W. Johnston.....	13 4
7—J. Andrew.....	13 11
Stroke—D. Glas.....	11 7
Cox—J. Hall.....	9 4

This race is always regarded as the event of the Regatta, and on this occasion it was no exception to the rule. Both crews had trained with much earnestness and vigour, and so even had been their performances that the result was looked forward to with the keenest interest. The Scotch were slightly the favourites on account of the "form" they displayed in the last two or three of their practises, but it was thought their strength and endurance would be found insufficient to the weight

they had to pull, while the English were more evenly balanced in this respect, but, it is said, in the many practises they had, they never rowed the entire distance of the Race at one time. The betting was a little in favour of the Scotch, and being fortunate enough to win the toss and secure the inside place, they were the favourites at the start; but nevertheless the English seemed well contented with their chance. They were the first to appear afloat, and paddled up the Creek in splendid style, eliciting much admiration. In a few minutes afterwards the Scotch followed, and their backers seemed equally well pleased with their style. It was slack water, with a little of the ebb tide. At the start the English obtained the advantage of a few feet, which was soon regained by the Scotch, who, as quickly, lost it again; and the English went about a quarter of a length ahead, which they maintained to the Bend, both crews rowing in splendid form. The English steered round the Bend most admirably, but the Scotch having the advantage of inside place deprived them of their forward position, and the two crews were on even terms down to the one mile starting post, passing which the Scotch were a little in front. At Miller's Bungalow the boats were on even terms, and at the Boathouse also they were "neck and neck," but dangerously close, and the Scotch were going hardly so regularly or in such good form as the English. It was a splendid race, however, down passed Mr. Corner's house, both crews doing their very best, and finally the English won by four feet and a half. Great praise was bestowed on the winners, and the race was spoken of as one of the best of the kind that has taken place. Time 8 min. 15 seconds. It was generally supposed there was some fouling between Miller's and the finish, but nothing of the kind was claimed.

LADIES' PURSE.—Presented by the Ladies of Shanghai. For Junior Scullers. Entrance Fee, \$5. Distance, 1 mile.

1st Heat.

C. R. Sellers.....	9st. 10lbs.	White Black Star.....	1
M. Fors.....	10st.	Sibs.....Blue and White.....	2

There is little description required for this event. Sellers, who had the outside place, went away with a strong lead, and at Miller's Bungalow was fully two lengths in advance of Fors, who got dangerously near the shore on one or two occasions. Sellers maintained his position, and won, as he liked, by quite four lengths. Time, 5 min. 57 secs.

2nd Heat.

Tom Brown.....	10st. 10lbs.	Light and Dark Blue.....	1
James Hall.....	9st. 4lbs.	Red and White.....	2

Both went away to a very even start, Hall having the inside place. For the first one hundred yards they kept together, neither apparently having any advantage. Brown then gradually drew to the front. At Markham's farm he was a length ahead, and passing Miller's Bungalow he took his opponents water, and had to all appearances the race in his hands. Hall evidently thought so, for he relaxed his exertions and Brown, increasing his lead, won easily by several lengths. Time not taken.

GRIFFINS' PLATE.—Shanghai Fours. For all who have not rowed in any previous Shanghai Regatta. Four Punters. Entrance Fee, \$12. Distance, 1 mile.

1.—KIDS.—Blue & White.	2.—LAMBS.—Red & White.
Bow—C. R. Sellers ..	Bow—C. J. Dudgeon ..
2—W. Wintle ..	2—W. Buchanan ..
3—J. W. L. Williamson ..	3—M. Fors ..
Stroke—W. J. Noel ..	Stroke—J. W. Innocent ..
Cox—C. Dowdall ..	Cox—C. J. Ashley ..

The *Kids* won the toss and took inside place. Another very even start was effected, but the *Kids* soon assumed a slight lead, and increased it to a length at Miller's Bungalow. Thence to the Boathouse the *Lambs* picked up their lost ground in splendid style, and passing the Boathouse they were on pretty even terms, and each crew seemed to have an equal chance of winning. Both

exerted themselves to the utmost, and struggled gamely. The *Lambs* about two hundred yards from home had the advantage of a few feet, but they were unable to hold it, and the *Kids* won a finely contested race by a quarter of a length. Time, 5 minutes 21 seconds.

CHALLENGE FOUR-OAR RACE.—In Shanghai new fairs. Distance, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Entrance Fee, \$20.

1.—CLUB.— Red and White.	2.—COMMITTEE.— Dark Blue.
st. lbs.	st. lbs.
Bow—J. F. Cheetham 11 7	Bow—J. C. Bois 10 9
—Sir W. Johnston 13 4	—F. Huchting 11 9
—C. W. Holliday 12 8	—J. Andrew 13 11
Stroke—O. M. Wyatt 11 12	Stroke—O. M. Glass 11 7
Cox—J. Hall 9 4	Cox—C. Dowdall 9 4

A good start was effected, both crews taking the water simultaneously. The Committee, who had outside place, soon drew ahead and had a slight lead to the Bend, where the Club overhauled them, and obtained an advantage of about a length, which they maintained all the way down to Miller's Bungalow, when the Committee reduced the distance between them to half a length. In these positions they passed the Boathouse, both crews rowing remarkably well. Opposite Corner's house the Committee made a fine spurt which was gamely responded to by the Club, who, after an exciting finish, won by three-quarters of a length. Time, 8 min. 21 sec.

LADIES' PURSE.—Junior Sculls. Final heat—Winners of previous heats.

Sellers	1	Brown	2
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This race was looked forward to with great interest. The betting was about even. Sellers took a formidable lead at the start, and though Brown rowed splendidly he could not gain on his opponent, who maintained his position and at the farm was a couple of lengths ahead. Nearing the Boathouse, Brown put on a splendid spurt for about a dozen strokes and was loudly cheered, but it was too late, and seeing this he yielded and Sellers won by several lengths. Time 5 minutes 40 seconds.

The winner was lustily cheered on returning to the Boathouse, and shortly afterwards he proceeded to Mr. Miller's house to receive the prize he had won. Mrs. Holliday made the presentation on behalf of the ladies of Shanghai, and briefly complimented the winner on his success. The poet, she remarked, said:—"Men must work, and women must weep," but she thought "Men must work, and women must cheer them on their way." (Cheers.) She then handed the purse to its winner amid loud applause.

Mr. Sellers thanked Mrs. Holliday for her kind sentiments, and remarked that though he had been the recipient of other prizes, he appreciated none of them so highly as he did the present one. In conclusion, he thanked the ladies of Shanghai for the interest they had always taken in the Shanghai Rowing Club, and expressed a hope that they would continue to take as much interest in it in the future as they had done in the past.

DOUBLE SCULLING RACE.—Entrance Fee, \$6. Distance, 1 mile.

James Hall 9st. 4lbs. }	Blue and White	1
R. P. Hunter 10st. 3lbs. }		
O. M. Wyatt 11st. 12lbs. }	Blue and White Hoops. 2	
J. Andrew 13st. 11lbs. }		

When this race was rowed, it was raining more heavily than it had done at any time during the afternoon, and darkness was coming on so rapidly that it was difficult to see the competitors a hundred yards away. Hall and Hunter had practised a great deal together, and, as an old oarsman remarked, they paddled away from the Boathouse down to the starting post like a machine; while their opponents were experienced and highly trained old hands, but they had done a considerable amount of work during the afternoon. The boats got away pretty evenly together, Hall and Hunter being slightly in the rear. But they soon regained the little they had lost, and sculled away with a strong lead. At Miller's Bungalow they

were between two and three lengths ahead, and though their opponents persevered pluckily passed the Boathouse, they were unable to lessen the distance dividing them, and Hall and Hunter were easy winners.—Time, 5 min. 21 sec.

A Club Eight-oar Scratch race was down on the programme, but owing to the darkness it was abandoned, and the day's sport closed about six o'clock. It was then still raining heavily, and few spectators had remained to see the end.

SECOND DAY,

Saturday, 26th October, 1878.

The weather to-day was all that could be desired for boating, the only drawback being a slight fall of rain which came with the "turn of the tide" and lasted for about half-an-hour, when it gave over, and the remainder of the afternoon was dry though cloudy. Towards five o'clock, the temperature suddenly fell to a very low minimum, making pea-jackets and overalls useful to those not engaged in the actual sport. The number of spectators was much greater than on the first day, and included many ladies. The lawn at Miller's bungalow and the house itself, were, with the customary hospitality on these occasions, again thrown open, and were the rendezvous of a gay assemblage, whose enjoyment was much heightened by the performance of M. Bernard's band, which played at intervals throughout the afternoon.

Of the actual sport, there is but little to be said that would interest any but rowing men. The Men-of-War's Cutter's Race did not fill, not a single boat putting in an appearance, although entries were to close at the start. This, we are given to understand, was not altogether the fault of the Men-of-War, but owing to the want of due publicity. The Merchant Vessels Gig's Race brought five competitors, the *Cutty Sark's* boat, which had been entered, being withdrawn in consequence of some business connected with the ship keeping the crew on board. A cutter from the *Halton Castle*, however, put in an appearance at the last moment, and made up the number of entrants to five, resulting in a fine race between the boats from the *Canon Harrison*, the *Nourmahal* and *Thermopylae*. It should, however, be stated that the coxswain of the *Canon Harrison's* boat, the winner, went, we were informed, over the course on the day previous, and so became acquainted with the shoals, bends, &c., which, in the Soochow Creek, are covered at high water, leaving only a slight fringe of grass above the surface. On to one of these deceptive places, the *Thermopylae's* boat was steered, and was so far detained by having to pull through a score or so yards of mud keel deep, that her chance of winning was gone. The crew, however, made a gallant struggle, and although they had been, in their dilemma, passed by the *Nourmahal's* boat, they never afterwards lost ground, and but for touching the ground would have made a close finish with the winner.

For the Senior Sculls, the prize for which is presented by the bankers of Shanghai, there were four entries. Glass and Wyatt were pitted against each other, while a newcomer, at least to the Soochow Creek, H. Munster Schultz, found himself opposed to J. Andrew. Schultz came with a well-earned reputation as a sculler and oarsman from the blue waters of Hongkong, and it must be admitted that he lost none of his prestige by his work upon the muddy waters of the creek yeelpet Soochow. But to the race. Neither Wyatt nor Glass were ever in better form than on the present occasion, and the leaning was in favour of the Englishman, notwithstanding the known superiority of the Northernman's boat. It was a pity so fine a contest throughout as this undoubtedly would have been was spoiled by a foul, but the race was afterwards so pluckily rowed out, that few, if any, at the Boathouse and

Mound knew what had occurred in the upper reaches of the Creek. To Wyatt must be given the highest credit for so gallantly pulling a race, knowing that the prize would not be his even if he came in first. It was an illustration of the old story, about which nothing more need be said here.

For the Chaaze Cup, the "Veterans" were overmatched—the "Griffins" putting in the strongest and most even crew we remember to have seen for at least five years. The distance given in the programme was a mile-and-a-half, but they rowed the orthodox mile, the "Griffins" winning but not too easily. It is only fair to mention that some of the "Veterans" had been nearly a score of years in the Far East, the average of the crew, we believe, being thirteen years, while the limit of the "Griffins" was three years and under—fresh, hearty young fellows, with the bloom of Mincing Lane and Friday Street unblemished, and, as it is to be hoped, likely to be able to do their mile as "Veterans" when the time comes, in the same time as it was done by the hale old fellows on Saturday—5 min. 14 secs. Who but Croaker and family will revile a life in the Far East, and Shanghai in particular, after that?

In the Club Fours' race, there is but little to remark, beyond the fact of the remarkably good steering of each of the four competing boats. This was certainly a feat for which the coxswain of each boat deserves an extra laurel, for starting four four-oared outriggers at one time in waters like those of the sinuous Soochow Creek, is to run a risk of fouling, and perhaps worse accident than would be the case in a wider and straighter stream. The boats kept beautifully in line abreast for a considerable distance, until Hall's crew began to forge ahead and take the lead, the other three keeping equidistant and pulling a fast and powerful stroke, rendering it difficult, until about three parts of the course had been covered, to say how they would be placed at the finish.

The final heat for the Bankers' Cup, between Glass and Schultz, was "attempted," but after three fouls and a "spill" of Schultz, in consequence of the "final foul," and darkness coming on, it was deemed the better thing to postpone the race till half-past four this afternoon. Mr. Schultz, who luckily is a swimmer, was picked up by the Umpire's launch, and his boat and sculls were recovered by the Starter's launch which followed. We cannot pass this incident by without recording the opinion that the Umpire showed both tact and judgment in his decisions on this unfortunate contretemps, while the ready acquiescence and good temper shown by the "men in the boats" must not be overlooked. The race this afternoon, will, if both competitors come to the rope in the same form as on Friday, be a fine one, because, with open daylight, and a determination to win on both sides, coupled with the absence of fatigue consequent upon no previous rowing the same day, there will be nothing to prevent the fullest display of the result of previous training.

The darkness on Saturday also prevented the "Tai-koo" Hong Challenge Fours being rowed, and this race will also take place this afternoon, as well as the All Comers' Race, and anything else that may offer, so that for once there is a prospect of a capital "off-day" for the rowing men.

Appended is a return of the sport:—

MERCHANT VESSELS GIG'S RACE.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. First prize, \$20; Second, \$10.

"CANON HARRISON"	Green	1
"NOURMAHAL"	Blue and White	2
"THERMOPYLA"	Red	3
"BLACK ADDER"	White	0
"HALTON CASTLE"	Blue	0

The five boats got away to a very good start, the *Canon Harrison* leading, followed by the *Thermopylae* and *Nourmahal*. The

coxswain of the leading boat, having been over the course the day before, knew exactly where the "grass" in the creek lay, and steered his boat over what in an hour afterwards was a mud flat. The *Thermopylae*, ignorant of the fact, steered close also, but got aground, and for some time was actually pulling through the mud. By the time she had fairly got afloat again, the *Canon Harrison* had got so far ahead that pursuit was hopeless, and the *Noumahal* had also passed. A fine race for second place ensued, however, between her and the *Thermopylae*, ending in favour of the former by a bare half-length.

BANKERS' CUP.—Presented by the Bankers of Shanghai. Senior Sculls. Distance, 1½ miles. Entrance Fee, \$5.

1st Heat.

D. Glass 11st. 7lbs..St. Andrew's Cross... 1
O. M. Wyatt 11st. 12lbs..Blue and White Hoops 2

2nd Heat.

H. Munster Schultz 13st. 5lbs..Dk. Blue & Light Blue 1
J. Andrew 13st. 11lbs..Red and White 2

These races, which attracted much interest, and led to a great deal of betting as to both heats, were started within a few minutes of each other, in order to save time. In the first heat Wyatt went away with a slight lead, but Glass, pulling a rapid stroke, soon drew alongside him, and went about half-a-length ahead. Wyatt, shortly afterwards, unluckily got into Glass's water, and in a few seconds the boats became so close that a foul was seen to be inevitable. This in a few strokes more took place, and it was so palpable that dispute was impossible, but the race was nevertheless pulled through. Wyatt pulled a plucky stern-chase, losing only by about a length, in spite of his mishap. Time, including stoppage, 10.32.

The heat between Schultz and Andrew was won by the former any how, the time given being 10.44, but the winner pulled in at a pleasure stroke.

The result so far of the final heat is given above.

THE CHAAZE CUP.—Presented by the Tea Inspectors of Shanghai. Challenge 8-Oared Race in Shanghai 8's. Veterans (10 years and over in China) v. Griffins (3 years and under in China being *bona fide* griffins at date of entry.) Entrance Fee, \$40 per boat. Distance, 1 mile.

1.—GRIFFINS 8.—Green.	2.—VETERANS 8.—Grey.
at lbs.	at lbs.
Bow—C. R. Sellers 9 10	Bow—P. K. Dumaresq 11 0
2—W. Buchanan 10 1	2—H. L. Skeels 11 0
3—G. W. Noel 10 10	3—O. Schuffenhauer 13 0
4—V. Wintle 10 9	4—A. C. Westall 13 12
5—J. W. L. Williamson 11 2	5—R. Mackenzie 14 0
6—M. Pors 10 8	6—E. J. Caldwell 12 0
7—C. J. Dudgeon 10 4	7—John Morris 11 11
Stroke—J. W. Innocent 11 7	Stroke—B. A. Clarke 11 7
Cox—C. Dowdall 9 4	Cox—G. J. Ashley 10 0

At the start betting was somewhat in favour of the oldsters, and the good opinion was enhanced by their winning the toss and taking inside place. The start was pretty even, the juveniles, however, not getting way on their boat in the first few strokes, fell behind; but they soon picked up, and, putting on a slashing but very smooth stroke, went ahead, and were never again approached, winning a good race by about three lengths. Time, 5.14.

CLUB FOURS.—Brokers' Cup. Presented by the Brokers of the Settlement. Entrance Fee, \$10 per boat. 1 mile.

1.—"ECLIPSE."—Black.	2.—"THE SCORPIONER."—Red and White.
Bow—R. P. Hunter...	Bow—O. B. Sellers...
2—M. Pors.....	2—J. W. L. Williamson
3—C. J. Dudgeon...	3—J. E. Cheetham...
Stroke—A. Burrows...	Stroke—C. W. Holliday
Cox—J. Hall.....	Cox—V. Wintle.....
3.—"THE SURPRISE."—Red.	4.—"NEI UT."—Dark Blue.
Bow—H. H. Joseph...	Bow—P. K. Dumaresq
2—J. C. Johnston...	2—H. I. Skeels...
3—Sir Wm Johnston	3—J. W. Shepherd...
Stroke—J. M. Cory...	Stroke—F. Huchting...
Cox—B. A. Clarke...	Cox—C. Dowdall...

This was without doubt the prettiest race of the Regatta—the four boats getting off well together and the coxswains steering so evenly that from the first it was felt there was no fear of a foul. The race, in fact, was so good for some distance that

description is impossible, and when Hall's crew drew gradually in front, followed soon afterwards by Wintle's for second place, it was seen that the remaining two stood little if any chance. The winners passed the Mound in 5.27½; the second boat in 5.41; Clarke's crew finished third, slightly in advance of Dowdall's.

The final beat of the Senior Sculls for the Banker's Cup will, as before stated, be rowed this afternoon, and also the "Taikoo" Fours v. The World, the All Comers' Race, &c., commencing at 4.30.

The deciding heat for the Bankers' Cup (Senior Sculls) was rowed on Monday afternoon by Glass and Schultz, the winners of the previous heats. Half-past four was the hour named, and the race was rowed just on the turn of the tide. A very even start was effected, but it was known that both men felt the spirit of rivalry to an extent that made the issue of the race doubtful, to say the least. On the word to go, they both got away so nearly together that it was difficult to say which had the best of the start. However, after pulling about 200 yards, the seemingly inevitable foul occurred, but so much in the middle of the river that the Umpire sent the men back again and started the race afresh. On starting the second time, Schultz made the pace about 40 to the minute, which Glass quickly followed, but it was soon seen that he was overmatched, though for some reason at the time unknown. The race was virtually over till just before reaching the boathouse, where Schultz took Glass's water for the second time, and where if Glass had put on the power he must have won. However, the golden opportunity was lost, and Schultz spurring away, went in a winner by about a length in 8 min. 40½ secs. There never was a sculling race rowed at either of the Shanghai Regattas in any year in which so many changes occurred, the men taking each other's water some four or five times in the course of a mile and a half.

At the conclusion of the race, it was found that Glass's left scull was broken, quite an inch of its width having been taken off the blade in the foul, thereby losing much of its grip and power in the water.

There were no other races, the Tai-koo Hong Challenge four being off in consequence as we were told of the illness of one of "The World's" crew. The Tai-koo four therefore rowed over the course, in order as might be supposed only to complete the programme.

The All Comers' Race did not fill, and as the sun was once more on the wane and darkness coming on, the Autumn Regatta of the S.R.C. for 1878 was terminated.

Miscellaneous.

THE NEW FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT AND ORDER IN COUNCIL FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

(L. & C. Express.)

The "Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1878," and the "China and Japan Order in Council, 1878," form two very important and valuable instalments of the work which the Foreign Office have had in hand for some time past in relation to the administration of justice in H.M. Courts in China and Japan. It was originally proposed to issue at once Revised Rules of Legal Procedure for these Courts, containing all the amendments which the practical experience of the working of the present system has suggested in the course of the last ten or twelve years; but it was, on further consideration, found desirable, before dealing with the question of procedure, to obtain from Parliament additional powers which would enable Her Majesty to confer upon British Courts established under the Foreign Juris-

diction Acts the benefit of certain provisions relating to the administration of civil and criminal justice, which are contained in various Imperial statutes applicable only to H.M. Colonial Courts, as well as an extended jurisdiction, in relation to offences committed by British subjects on board British vessels on the high seas. The jurisdiction which under the previous Acts the Queen had power to confer on these Courts was limited to offences committed on shore, or within the territorial waters of the country where they were established; and under s. 3 of the Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 94, "For the Better Government of H.M.'s Subjects resorting to China," Her Majesty has power to confer on British Courts established in that country jurisdiction over British subjects being in any vessel at a distance of not more than a hundred miles from the coast thereof. It was thought expedient to extend this enactment to Japan, and also to enable H.M. to confer on any foreign Jurisdiction Courts the powers exercised by Colonial Courts as to offences committed on the high seas and within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty. Accordingly the foreign Jurisdiction Act of last Session, which was introduced in the House of Lords by the Lord Chancellor, and in the House of Commons by the Attorney-General, makes provision for all these matters. The effect of its enactments are:—

(1.) To enable the Queen to extend to Courts established under the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts and to places within the jurisdiction of those Courts divers Imperial Acts which confer jurisdiction on Colonial Courts, or relate to the trial and apprehension of offenders in the colonies.

(2.) To extend the Orders in Council under the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts the provisions of 28 & 29 Vict. c. 63 as to the validity of colonial laws.

(3.) To enable the Queen to exercise Jurisdiction Acts in places where there is no Government which can confer jurisdiction under those Acts.

The first schedule of the Act shows at a glance the nature of the provisions contained in Imperial statutes applicable to Colonial Courts, the benefit of which may now be extended to Courts established in foreign countries where the Queen exercises ex-territorial jurisdiction over her subjects; but it may be convenient to explain the provisions of those Acts more fully.

The Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 34 provides for the arrest in one part of Her Majesty's dominions of a person committing certain offences in another part.

The Act 12 & 13 Vict. c. 96 provides for the trial and punishment in a colony of persons guilty of offences committed at sea, and for the trial of a person guilty of murder or manslaughter where the stroke is at sea and the death in a colony, or where the stroke is in a colony and the death at sea, in the latter case providing that the offender shall not be tried in the colony; while the Act 23 & 24 Vict. c. 122 allows the legislature of a colony to provide that he may be so tried.

The Act 14 & 15 Vict. c. 99 ss. 7 and 11 relate to the mode of proving judicial proceedings of colonial courts and the admissibility in evidence of certain documents in colonial courts.

The Act 19 & 20 Vict. c. 113 allows evidence to be taken by a court in Her Majesty's dominions for a tribunal in a foreign country.

The Act 22 Vict. c. 20 provides for taking in one part of Her Majesty's dominions evidence for the purpose of a suit pending in another suit.

The Act 22 & 23 Vict. c. 63 provides for ascertaining for a court in one part of Her Majesty's dominions the law of another part.

The Act 24 & 25 Vict. c. 11 provides for ascertaining for a court in any part of Her Majesty's dominions the law of a foreign country.

The Act 17 & 18 Vict. c. 104 (Merchant Shipping Act) Part 10, relates to the prosecution throughout Her Majesty's dominions of offences under the Act, and indeed under all the amending Merchant Shipping Acts.

The Act 30 & 31 Vict. c. 124 s. 11 provides for the trial in any court of justice in Her Majesty's dominions of a British subject committing any crime on board any British ship, or any foreign ship to which he does not belong.

The Act 37 & 38 Vict. c. 94 s. 51 provides for evidence being given in Scotland of a will by means of a probate issued in a colony.

In applying the above enactments, the Queen may extend the Act, with or without modifications, to a country or place under the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts as if it were a colony. The adaptation of the Act as regards the court, justices, governor, &c., will be effected by the Order. The object of section 4 of the new Act is to prevent an Order in Council being held void on the ground of repugnancy to the law of England where it is not repugnant to an Act of Parliament, and from being void further than such repugnancy extends. Section 6 is a re-enactment of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 80. s. 3 extended to Japan. Section 7 is a re-enactment of s. 7 of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 94 in the modern form in which such enactments are made, but is extended to actions in any of Her Majesty's Courts, including Foreign Jurisdiction Courts. As regards the other measure which has just been passed, namely, "The China and Japan Order in Council, 1878," which was summarised in our last issue, it will be observed that it introduces a very important and beneficial change in the existing judicial system, by establishing a separate Court for Japan. We understand that this is a temporary measure, and that it is in contemplation to issue by-and-by, distinct Orders in Council for China and Japan. In the meanwhile the existing Order in Council of 1865 is modified by the establishment of "H.B.M. Court for Japan," which is to be presided over by a professional judge of not less than seven years' standing at the Bar, and is to have its principal seat at Kanagawa. H.M.'s Consul for that district will thereupon cease to hold a provincial Court and will become *ex officio* assistant judge of the New Court. There is to be an appeal in civil and criminal cases to the Supreme Court at Shanghai. The Court for Japan will exercise Admiralty jurisdiction and an Appellate jurisdiction from the Provincial Courts in Japan, and indeed a general jurisdiction in Japan co-extensive with that hitherto exercised there by the Supreme Court for China and Japan. The last-mentioned Court will by the terms of the new Order in Council absolutely cease to exercise jurisdiction there except as regards appeals from the New Court. The Order also provides that the Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court at Shanghai is to be Registrar of that Court, and the office of Law Secretary is abolished.

Such is briefly the effect of the new Order in Council; and it will, no doubt, be a matter of gratification to the British communities in China and Japan to learn that the Foreign Office, in the midst of the absorbing labours which have devolved upon it during the last session of Parliament in relation to the Eastern Question, should have been able to find time for the consideration of these important and useful measures.

THE INDIA AND CHINA MAIL SERVICE. (*The Overland Mail.*)

All persons connected with India are deeply interested in the mail service, upon the perfection of which depends not only regular communication by letter, but—as the mail steamers are passenger steamers—the precision and comfort with which, to the large number of passengers who travel by them, the voyage out to India and home is made. The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company have some formidable rivals in steam communication with the East; and the fact that the mail contract will expire early in 1880 has led to

a good deal of speculation concerning the future—whether the India, China, and Australian lines of mail steamers would run as heretofore, or whether some improvements and new arrangements would be attempted. On the whole the P. & O. Company's fleet has worked so well, that, provided some acceleration of speed were sanctioned, we have never doubted the renewal of the contract.

As we announced last week, the contract for the India and China mail service has been renewed by the Government with the P. & O. Company for eight years from 1880. We understand that a similar subsidy—allowing for certain changes—will be paid to that of the expiring contract. One of the principal modifications of the contract is the abandonment of the Southampton service altogether. What the Post Office will determine as to rates of postage is only conjectural, but all letters and newspapers for India and China will be sent in future *via* Brindisi. This will greatly add to the importance of the Italian route. We shall hear no more of the heavy mails *via* Southampton; all will go on Friday; and the concession of speed will shorten the time taken in conveying the mail, *via* Brindisi, two and a half days between London and Bombay, and three and a half days between London and Shanghai. This will place India within eighteen days of London, and it is all the concession as to time that could be expected, and for despatches which have hitherto gone *via* Southampton the saving in time will be nine days more. We assume that there will be an adjustment of postage rates, so that the abandonment of the Southampton route will not entail the loss of the so-called cheap rate. The rates of postage to India, though they have been modified, are still excessive, and the opportunity will doubtless be taken to bring the charges into accord by reducing the amount now charged on letters and packets which are conveyed *via* Brindisi.

London merchants and bankers who have interested themselves in the maintenance of the present mail service will be gratified to know that there is no intention to alter here the days of the departure and arrival of the India and China mails. This is most important. In every discussion it has been abundantly seen that City men find the Friday outward mail and the Monday inward mail the most convenient arrangement possible. An alteration must be made somewhere, as the length of the voyage is shortened, and London, which is the main focus, must be considered first. So far as the Eastern ports are concerned, they will all have new mail days, but it is obviously impossible to give them a choice of days before London, as consulting the convenience, say of Bombay, would almost of necessity entail fixing a less convenient day for closing the mail at Madras and Calcutta. The intention is that the mail steamers shall both leave later and arrive earlier in the East. The P. and O. Company has deserved the confidence which is reposed by the Government in its fleet and management; and we expect to find that the new contract arrangements will give general satisfaction.

THE PROPOSED CHINESE POST-OFFICE. (*Amoy Gazette.*)

We see by the Northern papers that Li Hung-chang remains true to the policy he has always steadily followed of steadily resisting the efforts of Mr. Hart to extend the control exercised by him over the Foreign Customs to other departments of the Government; and that the Chinese Post-office which has been so long talked of instead of being as was supposed a Customs institution, is to be purely Chinese under native control and management, and that as with the native arsenals, fleets, mining operations, &c., while quite ready to avail himself of the information Mr.

Hart and his subordinates place at his disposal and even at the outset to make use of individual members of the service, the astute Minister sees thoroughly the danger to China of the further extension of the power and influence of that already powerful institution the Foreign Maritime Customs.

We are of opinion, however, that if H.E. really have a desire for the prosperity of the scheme, and wishes the native Post-office to succeed and supersede those already established at the ports, he would do wisely if he left its working in the Customs hands; for unless the various offices be for some time at least under foreign management and supervision, he will find that the new establishment will bring a storm of complaint about his ears, which will be poorly compensated by the petty profit that is likely to be derived from it; and to organize a separate staff will be matter of more time and money than the scheme is worth.

When the arsenals were established, H.E. obtained the aid of exceptional men to enable him to overcome the difficulties attendant on their institution, and as foreign interests were in no way affected or concerned, there was no reason why Dr. Macartney and M. Giguel should be placed under Mr. Hart's control, nor doubtless have the Chinese seen any reason to regret their refusal to allow him to have any say in the matter; but a Post-office is a different matter, not only in that every European in China is interested in the safe and regular transmission of his correspondence, but that affecting places beyond Chinese control the system introduced must necessarily be brought into relation with the other existing systems, and without a foreigner at every port working as one of a service under the strict supervision and control of the head office, endless confusion and dissatisfaction must result.

Had H.E. commenced by establishing Governmental Post-offices at the ports for the receipt and transmission of natives' correspondence only, and as the system became organized extended it to foreign correspondence, both Chinese and foreigners would have been benefited; but commencing as is proposed with a foreign Post-office, to take charge of the letters at present carried by the foreign Post-offices without the necessary staff and organization, is beginning at the wrong end and can only result in failure.

WRECKS OF VESSELS SAILING FROM SHANGHAI. (*Hogo News.*)

The *Kiushiu Maru*, which arrived at Kobe from Kagoshima on Saturday, brought the Captain, his wife, officers and crew (all but three of the latter) of the American ship *Lookout*, wrecked last month on Kutsunoshima, about a hundred miles from Kagoshima. The *News* has been furnished by Captain Wiggin with the following account of the disaster:—

American ship *Lookout*, of San Francisco, left Shanghai at 10 a.m., September 7th, in tow of tugboat *Fokelin*, and at noon came to anchor in the Yangtse river. Got underweigh at 1 p.m. and beat down the river. At 3 a.m. on the 8th came to anchor below the outer Lightship, in a calm, when the pilot left. Got underweigh at 9 a.m. and stood out: towards the Saddles. Came to anchor at 3 p.m. in a calm (North Saddle Light-house bearing E. by S. distant 9 miles), where we lay till 2 a.m. on September 10th, when we got underweigh and stood out to sea. At noon were in Lat. 31.36 N., Long. 124.06 E., with moderate E.N.W. winds and fine weather. On the 11th the weather continued fine, with Northerly breezes. At 6 p.m. passed close to Kusaki-sima, and at midnight had run by log from the Island 31 miles S.E., when we have to under lower topsails in Lat. 30.32 N., Long. 129.55 E. At this time, the barometer beginning to fall rapidly, took in all sail, after having reefed

fore and main courses and spanker. At 2 a.m. lying to under bare poles, with gale increasing rapidly. By 5 a.m. the gale had increased to a typhoon. At 7 a.m. a perfect tornado. Mainmast went by the board, taking head of lowermast above the eyes of rigging, and at about the same time the fore-top-gallant mast was carried away. At 7.30 the mizen-top mast went by the board, carrying away head of lowermast. At 9.30 the ship struck twice or thrice on a reef and went over. Sounded pumps and found she was making no water. At 10 a.m. breakers were seen under our lee, and in three minutes more we were cast upon a rocky beach, where the ship thumped fearfully. Expecting the ship would break up, we launched a boat, to try to get a line ashore; it was manned by three volunteers (viz., Hugh Thompson, a native of Scotland; Lears Hansen, a native of Norway; and William Klement, a native of Russia), but as soon as the boat left the ship's side it was swept astern by the current into the full force of the surf, where it immediately capsized and the three men were drowned. We then cut away the foremast, hoping to be able to reach the shore from that, but it was not long enough. As the gale now began to abate and the tide was falling we concluded to remain on the wreck and wait for a better chance to get ashore; when a number of natives appeared on the beach, and with their assistance we got a line ashore, by means of which we all reached land in safety. The natives proved to be Japanese, and were very friendly. They had brought boiled rice with them, supposing that we might be suffering with hunger. We were particularly fortunate in having a man (our Steward) who could understand and talk the language. They took us to some fishing huts not far off, where we got on dry clothes, and then they conducted us over the hills to their village on the other side of the Island, and gave us one of their best huts, where we remained waiting for suitable weather to embark in open boats (there were none other) for Kagoshima, nearly 100 miles North. During our stay we had a three days gale, which we supposed was the equinoctial storm. This hove the ship higher up on the beach, but she still held together, so that we were enabled to get provisions and most of our personal effects out of her. We were on the Island sixteen days, and then embarked in two fishing boats for Kagoshima. After being 5½ days on the passage, and just before reaching our destination, we fell in with the M.B.S.S. Co.'s s.s. *Kiushiu Maru*, Captain Thompson. We were all taken on board and very hospitably entertained by Captain Thompson and his officers. The Captain generously offered us all a free passage to Kobe, but subsequently the Governor of Kagoshima assumed the responsibility of sending us at the expense of the Imperial Japanese Government. We left Kagoshima on the morning of October 7th, in the s.s. *Kiushiu Maru*, but returned to a safe anchorage in Kagoshima Gulf, on account of a strong head wind and sea outside. On the evening of the same day we went back to Kagoshima, where we lay until the morning of the 10th, when we again left for Kobe, where we arrived at noon on the 12th instant. On arrival made application to the American Consul-General Stahel, who kindly attended to all our requirements.

The *News* also reports the loss of the British schooner *Barbara Taylor*, Captain Taylor, the following particulars of which were given by a passenger who arrived on board the *Nagoya Maru*:—The *Barbara Taylor* left Shanghai on the 9th September for Nikolaevsk, and got into the same typhoon as that which so injured the *Tokio Maru*. Having all her sails blown away, Captain Taylor was forced to beach her on what turned out to be the Southern part of Quelpart. The natives immediately locked up every one on board in jail, when

it was found that communication could be established by means of the written language of a Chinaman the Captain had with him, and the head man of those parts (probably the principal official of the Island) having been informed of what had happened, sent for the Captain and Chinaman, who were taken about thirty miles on horseback with a guard. After crawling into the presence and having an interview with the great man, they were sent in a junk to Hirado, whence they made their way to Nagasaki. As two Japanese junks were reported wrecked at the same time and their crews treated the same way, a Japanese gunboat had left, and when the *Nagoya Maru* was coming away H.B.M.'s *Egeria* was making ready to start. We understand that Captain Taylor does not complain of any ill treatment, and thinks it not at all improbable that they were all locked up for their own safety, as the people he saw were not an agreeable looking lot and every man was armed.

FOUNDING OF THE CHINESE REVENUE CRUISER "LI-CHI," AND LOSS OF LIFE. (China Mail.)

It is with much regret we have to record the foundering of the Chinese revenue cruising schooner *Li-chi* (Captain Fry), with nearly all hands, news of which reached Hongkong on the 17th instant, by the steamer from Macao. The sad intelligence was brought by two Chinese, who are said to be the only survivors of the lost crew. The *Li-chi* was either on her way to or from Macao at the time of the accident, and the native survivors state that she was somewhere between Sankao and that port, when she was caught in the heavy gale of the 8th instant. Their description of the catastrophe—that at 10 a.m. of the 8th instant, "she turned over or foundered"—is somewhat significant, and to the regret generally felt at the loss of life, is added the unpleasant impression that sufficient care may not have been exercised to ensure the safety of those on board. The schooner was commanded by Capt. Fry, an intelligent and promising officer of the service, whose genial manners had made him a general favourite wherever he was known. His chief officer (Mr. McLeish) was also a reliable young officer, who received his promotion on the completion of the schooner but a few months ago. The news of the death of these officers will be received with sincere regret by many personal friends here, at the Coast Ports, and elsewhere. It is said that there were also two European quarter-masters on board the ill-fated craft; the remainder of the crew being composed of about a score of Chinese seamen drafted from the *Peng-chao-hai*, which vessel, by the way, was for some time under Captain Fry's command. The two survivors were, it appears, picked up by some means and taken to Macao, from which place they were forwarded to Mr. Degenauer, the Customs agent here. Fortunately the second officer of the steam-cruiser *Peng-chao-hai* was in Hongkong when the news arrived, and the two Chinese were at once taken in a steam-launch to the Fo-tow-moon Pass, where the *Peng-chao-hai* was anchored. Anything that can be done will doubtless be promptly carried out by Captain Palmer, who commands the cruiser above-named.

It may be premature as yet to cast blame upon anybody for the unfortunate loss of life involved in the accident, as the facts may conclusively prove that stress of weather was entirely accountable for the catastrophe. It cannot, at the same time, be forgotten that the original cranky nature of the *Li-chi* was matter of notoriety, while we believe several changes were made in her trimming, etc., before she was considered safe for her ordinary work as a cruiser. Whether this tendency was thoroughly corrected, and in such a manner as to ensure perfect safety in a gale, remains to be seen. Unfortunately the

evidence of the Europeans on board will never be given.

The Chinese revenue cruiser *Peng-chao-hai* (Captain Palmer) proceeded to see if any further traces could be found of the ill-fated wreck and crew. It appears that the schooner was lost near Sankao (not Lantao, as at first stated), one of the Lema Islands, and that the two survivors have described very accurately the scene of the disaster. The unfortunate vessel was, it is said, scudding before the gale of the 8th, when a following sea rose and swept the pilot and man at the wheel from the deck in an instant, the result being that she broached to, and in a few minutes filled and went down. For fifty-four hours the two Chinamen are said to have been at the mercy of the waves, though lashed to a boat (which was bottom up.) They were picked up on the 10th and taken to Macao, where they arrived on the 16th. After they had given what information they could to Captain Palmer, they were sent on to Canton.

A correspondent sends the following to the *Daily Press*:—"It may be interesting to some of your readers to have a short sketch of the life of the late Mr. James McLeish, chief officer of the late revenue schooner *Li-chi*, who was washed overboard and drowned shortly before the vessel foundered on the 8th inst. Mr. McLeish was born of very respectable parents in Glasgow. His parents died when he was very young, leaving one son and two daughters, who were taken care of by relations in Glasgow. At the age of fifteen the boy joined the ship *Lochleven Castle*, belonging to the well-known firm of Thomas Skinner & Co., as an apprentice. After finishing his apprenticeship, he served as second and chief officer in the same company's ship, but wishing to be in a steamer he joined the late steamship *Singapore*, belonging to the E. and A. M. Co., as third officer, and shortly afterwards he was promoted to be second officer. He left the *Singapore* in June, 1876, and joined the revenue cruiser *Chien-jui* as chief officer, the vessel being then under command of Captain Collins. Shortly after joining he was engaged in capturing a junk, when he was shot through the left wrist, after which he was ordered to remain in Macao in the charge of a Portuguese doctor. In November he was appointed to take command of the revenue cruiser *Li-she*, then building in Hongkong. Shortly afterwards, being stationed at Cap-sing-moon Pass, he was engaged in attacking some junks, when he received a bullet in the right wrist. He remained in the *Li-she* up to last month, when he was transferred to the ill-fated *Li-chi*. Mr. McLeish was a young man, twenty-six years of age, very amiable, kind, and always ready to help anyone if it lay in his power. He has left two sisters, residing in Glasgow. The elder was engaged to be married eighteen months ago, but put the marriage off until he should return home, which he intended doing shortly.

THE REBELLION IN KWANG-SI. (Daily Press.)

We are in receipt of further particulars of this rising. Li Yung-choi, the leader of the revolt, is a native of Ling-chow in Kwang-si, and about forty-five years of age. He wears the mandarin button of the highest (military) grade, and has held civil office of the 3rd rank; he has also been decorated by the Emperor for distinguished services with the high and coveted decoration of the "Yellow Jacket." It appears that Li Yung-choi gained notoriety as a Taiping general, and had sense and prudence enough to join the Imperial ranks when the collapse of the Taiping rebellion became imminent. He has since gained a great, and apparently deserved, reputation as a military leader in the Imperial service, and is a popular officer through the moderation and fairness which

have characterized his conduct as a soldier. Whether the movement will spread into Hunan, a province noted for the turbulence and disaffection of its people, or first extend south towards Annam and Yunnan, as the Chinese report it is doing, remains to be seen. Under any circumstances there should be little doubt but that the Imperial Government will be able to successfully cope with the rebellion, although it may take some time before they succeed in staying its progress. At present Li is said to be carrying all before him.

Correspondence.

FAMINE RELIEF COMMITTEE.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

DEAR SIR,—The correspondent of the *Times*, from whom you quote this morning, is somewhat in error as to the constitution of the Famine Relief Committee here. When first formed, alike this year and the last, there was no consideration of nationality whatever, but only to get a number of efficient and influential workers in the community, who might truly represent the general feeling and act in common under the sanction of the Municipal Council. The idea at the outset was to work the foreign Settlements and the outports. But as the magnitude and severity of the famine became apparent, it was thought necessary to telegraph specially to England and America, in the hope that assistance might be got from both these countries. The signatures of H.M. Consul and the U.S. Consul-General were readily obtained in both instances. In the former case the telegram was of eminent service, in the formation of a London Committee that has worked splendidly through the active efforts of its accomplished Secretary. In the other case, much disappointment was felt that the U.S. Government did not see its way to refund the so-called "indemnity money," for the noble purpose of relieving the perishing multitudes of China, to which it was thought it might properly be devoted. Considerable sums, however, have come to hand from the United States through private individuals, and for which thanks are due in large measure to Dr. Williams.

As to the membership of the Committee thus formed, to which, we think, at the same time there was no occasion for special reference on the part of the *Times* correspondent, we beg to correct a mistake that has been made, and so do away with any wrong impression conveyed in it. When the Committee was in full working order, there were seven Englishmen, four Americans, one German, and one Frenchman connected with it. One of the English members has been long absent from Shanghai. One of the Americans has gone to Europe, and the French member has died. Otherwise the numbers stand the same as before. Two of the office-bearers are English and one is an American. We utterly disclaim, however, any consideration of nationality in the case. There is the utmost unanimity and harmony in the constitution and working of the Committee. Our one object is to accomplish as well as possible the object we have in view, and alike in our Councils and in the matter of our distributors, no such a point as nationality has for a moment been thought of, but only in what way we could most fully and wisely relieve the distressed.

In relation to the report of our labour, and the moneys received and distributed, it may be sufficient to say that the letters of our agents in the famine districts, Catholic and Protestant, English and American, have appeared in the local papers abundantly. Those also addressed to us by H.M. Consul at Tientsin, as Chairman of the Committee there, under whose direction the funds have been

almost all distributed, have been fully published. Home and foreign readers are familiar with them. The accounts of our Treasurer also have regularly appeared, and we have been only waiting the anticipated closure of the famine work in order to issue complete details as to all matters of receipts and expenditure, together with the particulars of the distribution.

The latest news brings us satisfactory information of the end of the famine. H.M. Consul, Mr. Forrest, is preparing an elaborate report on the whole matter, which will shortly appear, and in a few weeks at furthest the necessities of our distributors for the winter will be intimated to us, when a final division of the balance on hand will be made, and the report of the Committee drawn up for public circulation. It is hoped that in that report "honour will be given to whom honour is due," whether in the light of official sanction or private influence or national generosity.

I am, yours faithfully,

WM. MUIRHEAD,

Hon. Sec.,

China Famine Relief Committee.

Shanghai, 28th Oct.

THE FAMINE IN THE NORTH.

MY DEAR MR. MUIRHEAD,—Yours of the 26th August, 11th September, and 1st October, were awaiting me at Chefoo on my arrival two or three days ago.

1.—You say the account of things in Shansi is somewhat contradictory. That may be because we look at them from a different standpoint. That there is an immense amount of suffering there now, which will last not only over the winter, but for years to come, as a result of the famine, is perfectly true. Yet it is equally true that much of this suffering cannot be relieved by any means official or private. Many have sold their land for next to nothing. I know of one who sold nine *mu* of land for nine catties of flour. To relieve the tens of thousands of families who have been thus reduced to beggary, the Government on one occasion in this dynasty made null and void all such sales, but as many of the original sellers had died, and the land would then pass into the hands of the nearest relatives, who might happen to be richer than the buyers, litigations arose, and the country was in a critical state for a time. However, with a firm hand and careful regulation such as the present Governors of Shansi could bring to bear, I believe something could be done, but it is not easy. My remarks had chiefly in view what suffering we, as private individuals, and what is still more difficult as foreigners, could alleviate, for it is with this the Committee is immediately concerned. I am very glad, however, you have had fuller information from my colleagues, so that the Committee may judge of the whole, and offer us any suggestions in regard to the work they may think best.

2.—As I wrote to you from Tsi-nan-fu, all along the way from Tai-yuen-fu, through Chihli and Shantung, there was a good harvest, and Mr. Melville spoke the same of Honan and other parts he had come through on his return. In view of this, if relief were distributed on any large scale in these regions this winter, I fear grave complications would arise if the Government is not going to do something which is not likely. This is my impression in regard to the work in general, though I might perhaps express myself differently in regard to some exceptional places, but I have no information about such places yet. So I think the best thing is to distribute aid only where Government relief is also given, for if several Chow-hiens be suffering grievously, as reported in Shansi before I left, then our balance would not be too much to distribute in one or two of these hiens. Before leaving Shansi I said that it was owing to the unparalleled extent of this famine that we

foreigners helped. Ordinarily we would not think of it, and as the famine this year was confined within such narrow limits, I thought the Committee would not make a further appeal, but only use up what balance they had in hand. And this the officials to whom I spoke thought very reasonable. As I said in my letter from Hwai-loo, it would be easier to give you more satisfactory information after all the harvest is gathered in. I hope you will soon, if you have not already had, later information from Hill and Turner in Shansi, as well as from others residing in Chihli and Shantung, where there was so much suffering last winter. I intend to start in a week or ten days back again, and of course will hasten to give you what I can gather about the state of the country at this late season.

3.—When I spoke of relieving only the widows and orphans, I was not aware there would be such a balance on hand. Now, at this distance, not possessing any very late news from Shansi, and unable to ascertain directly from the people themselves what would be the best relief for them, I cannot lay any definite plan before the Committee. New circumstances would make some excellent plans impracticable. I must go and see before I can say what would be best for the coming winter. Many good plans we cannot possibly carry out, because we are foreigners. It will not do to force anything. We must, as far as possible, carry out the plan which recommends itself as best to all parties, and not to a few only. We had not taken the orphans under our care at all. We only gave to them a ten-day's allowance at first, and now they get a monthly allowance. These were partly in the city of Tai-yuen-fu, but chiefly connected with several scores of villages around about, as we did not allow any but the names of the veriest poor to be taken down. Whether foreigners can open an orphanage there or not, I cannot certainly say. I am only sure of this, that nothing will succeed if it be done with violence to the feelings of the people amongst whom we reside. The people cannot get familiar with us in a day.

I wish I could write to you a far more satisfactory letter, but as it is now some time since I left, and you have access to information that I had not, I may learn of you, instead of you getting anything from me, about the present prospects. As I have said, I hope to go back soon, and then I hope I shall have something more satisfactory to write to you.

TIMOTHY RICHARD.

Chefoo, 21st October.

P.S.—I believe now that whatever money we have to distribute had better be distributed in December, January and February for from next April the poor will find employment that will save their lives at least, and foreign funds cannot well be used for other ends.

THE ANTI-OPIMUM QUESTION.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—The letter of "Wanderer" on the situation in China, which you reprinted from the *Evening Courier*—to the edification of all lovers of truth and the mortification and confusion of those who want to hide the light under a bushel—has called forth the usual protests against the delusive dreams being disturbed of the (pseudo) Philo-Chinese, who are interested in making others see darkly, just as the fox who lost his tail was desirous to see his fellows minus that appendage. As for what has been written in another place, it does not much matter, for it is following suit to those who reprobated the exposure of the Bulgarian atrocities. But when a man like the Rev. J. Lees comes forward as the champion of the Chinese officials, it is necessary to examine his

assertions, which I therefore purpose doing in this letter, with regret at the duty of pointing out his uncalled for invectives against "Wanderer's" courageous letter. As for calling "Wanderer" libellous and abusive, it is just those to whom Mr. Lees belongs who have been libelling the mercantile body in China for all these long years about opium and their indifference to the cause and progress of religion in selling the drug. Whenever any of the iniquities of China are held up to public attention and condemnation, some Pecksniff cries out that one is doing "intensified harm" and is "stinging" the Chinese titled criminals, who ought to have been long ago convicted and punished for their enormities. I feel sure that "Wanderer's" remarks about opium in relation to Christianity will, one day, be found to be correct; and when we are asked to prefer trusting intelligent Chinese about a matter in which it is their interest and habit to tell lies, and to rely on Mr. Lees' 16 years of prejudiced experience, whether the opium traffic has seriously "compromised our character in the eyes of good men," and has prejudiced the "best minds" of the nation against us, it is repeating the very unjust accusation against the sellers of opium (such as "Wanderer" has pointed out) that such men are always making. The assertions on their part about believing Chinese are in fact begging the question and assuming that these hypocritical Chinese are using their "intelligence" rightly, and that the "best minds" (viz., the mandarins who make money out of the opium traffic,) of the nation are really more prejudiced against us by Malwa and Patna than they are by their corrupted nature and education.

"Wanderer's" remarks about the feelings and conduct of the officials regarding the famine-struck people, are fully borne out by what is reported to have occurred to Mr. Timothy Richard at the commencement of his work in the province of Shantung, and by what is said to have occurred to Mr. Budd in Chihli. "Wanderer's" letter may embitter the Mandarins against us. Truth always embitters those whom it exposes, and yet Mr. Lees, while criticising "Wanderer," writes that the whole structure of official life is unavoidably corrupt. This is just what "Wanderer" and Archdeacon Gray have stated—but in milder terms than Mr. Lees has done.

The "harm" that the exposure of some actual and not "supposed misconduct" of officials in Chihli, who deprived the poor of the money given to them, is but the natural rage and resentment of the rascals on being detected; and they are now savage with foreigners, and with Protestant Missionaries specially, for showing them up. This is the "harm"—just like the harm done in publishing the misdeeds of evil-doers to warn people against them.

It was just the proper indignation that Mr. Lees expresses against massacres, etc., which "Wanderer," as a generous man, gave vent to on hearing the widespread reports (originated among the Chinese of Tientsin) that the burning of the 2,000 women and children was the work of the Mandarins; and most certainly it was current amongst Chinese at Tientsin at the time, that the fire was got up for the purpose of putting an end to the expense which the maintenance of those poor miserable creatures entailed on the local authorities. And it is equally certain that, according to our ideas, no concern commensurate with the calamity was ever evinced by either Mandarins or the people after that shocking occurrence.

The "emphatic denial" of Mr. Lees to "Wanderer's" statements about the Mandarins rejoicing over the famine and its consequent mortality, is a gratuitous assertion. The "heartly co-operation" of the officials with the foreign humanitarians in the work of relief, was not so patent at the beginning of the famine; and I have heard that all sorts of difficulties were experienced by the foreign distributors of

relief when they first commenced their charitable work, and it was only when these "grateful" (?) Mandarins had been shamed into assenting that their people should not be allowed to die of starvation, and when the persistence of the Anglo-Saxon minister of mercy had proved too much for their horrid opposition, that they turned round and expressed themselves with "recognition" of what had been done.

Somebody can tell what co-operation he received from the Chihli Mandarins, and he might also tell, if he liked, what was the result of his disclosures on the feeling of the great Northern luminary towards the Missionaries who fell victims to disease in their good work, and whereby the sepulchral monuments which were promised to commemorate their self-sacrifice in a noble cause have, it is said, been consequently withheld.

No one would ever say Li Hung-chang's letter was a mere official politeness. To anyone versed in the meaning of Chinese correspondence, or Imperial or Censorate edicts, it would be clear that Chinese official documents intended for the public eye are also intended to keep up the delusion that the Chinese moral theories are actually believed in by themselves, and that official life in China does not rest, as Mr. Lees declares in his letter, "upon a false basis," or in other words, on a basis of falsehood. In the *Pall Mall Budget* of 6th Sept., page 20, a short review of Mr. Nicholson's report on the opium trade in China, points out the fictitious character of all memorials, edicts, and other public documents of Chinese officials, expressing "righteous horror," and likening the writers of them to "an owl in the desert." They are what Carlyle terms "vast shams." To make them pass as sincere effusions, they would require to be accompanied with actions showing regard for foreigners. Words—especially written words—are worth very little by themselves. All the painstaking courtesy shown to Mr. Lees "under the Viceroy's orders," was no doubt as gratifying to that gentleman as it was unspontaneous on the part of those individuals, for it is not too much to say that for one instance of courtesy shown by the Mandarins to foreigners during the famine, there are very many other instances of rebuffs and intrigues against their carrying out their good projects. When the history of the relief agents shall have been written, there will be seen flagrant instances of indifference and apathy to the people's miseries which made it difficult for these charitable persons to succeed in their humane task. It would indeed be a libel on poor human nature if there were not some manifestation of good feeling scattered here and there over the vast field of Chinese officialdom, but starting from the known cruelty and disregard for human life shown regularly by mandarins, it is not at all incredible that they should not be moved to compassion at the loss of life by beings whom they would put to death without remorse for causes that in European ideas could hardly justify such severity. Remember the executions of the women and children throughout the Yunnan and Turkestan campaigns, even by Mandarins who had pledged their word to spare their lives! Remember the conduct of Li Futai when he killed the Taiping Wangs, after giving his word of honor to Colonel Gordon that their lives should be spared!! These shocking cruelties and crimes against humanity will never be forgotten, and will stand as effectual bars against all attempts by Mr. Anybody to whitewash the Chinese officials from their established reputation for indifference to the welfare or lives of their subjects.

It is unfortunate that "Wanderer" brought into his letter the difference between Protestant and Catholic Missionaries. As Mrs. Malaprop says, "comparisons are odious," and possibly had not "Wanderer" started such contrast, Mr. Lees would not have been so emphatic in his endeavours to

screen the Chinese officials from the exposure which has fallen on them. Can anyone believe that the Chinese Mandarins are "striving after what they believe to be good and true"—in the sense that Christians place on the terms good and true—which Mr. Lees declares is the case? If the Chinese ideas of good and true are the same as are generally held amongst civilised nations, there will be but little need "to fight the sin and misery of China" as Mr. Lees wishes to do. Rather, it is just because there is a vital difference between the good and the true of China and the good and true of Christianity, that the feelings of the Mandarins are "wounded" and their "sympathies" (if they ever had any) are "alienated" from Christian Missionaries.

It is all very well to be considerate for the proper feelings of Chinese Mandarins, but to deprecate all blame of their wrong system—moral and political—is not the way to impress on them that our moral code is better than theirs, or to bring the purifying effect of public opinion on them.

"Wanderer's" letter may excite the wrath of the Chinese authorities, but it will do a great deal of good by enlightening the British public; and if every utterance of opinion is to be judged by theories of mere expediency, good-bye to ever making the Chinese change from the error of their ways or to bring the English nation towards judging rightly of China.

Yours, &c.

OMEGA.

Tientsin, 17th Oct.

Law Reports.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 23rd Oct.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. (S. MAGNUSSEN and VALTIMORE ORSON) v. W. DAVIS.

Defendant is second mate of the barque *Euclid*, and he was charged on separate summonses with assaulting the complainants, who are sailors on board the same vessel, and who were charged with desertion on the previous day.

Defendant, in answer to his Worship, admitted slapping Magnussen on the face and shaking him up once or twice when he was asleep either at the wheel or when he was on the look-out.

MAGNUSSEN denied that he ever went to sleep at the wheel, and it was while he was at the wheel, about a month ago, that defendant beat him most. On that occasion defendant struck him on the face and made his nose and mouth bleed. He went to sleep once when he was on the look-out, but he had been kept up two or three watches, and could not help it. Defendant on that occasion assaulted him, but not very badly.

ORSON, the other complainant, deposed to seeing the blood after Magnussen had been beaten by the defendant at the wheel. His charge against the defendant was that he (defendant) struck him and made his mouth bleed.

Defendant said he gave Orson a slap because he called him a bad name, and would do so again under the same circumstances. It was not right for an officer of a vessel to be called names by the sailors.

Captain ANDERSON, the master of the *Euclid*, on the previous day, undertook that two witnesses, who saw the assaults, should be in attendance this morning, but neither of them put in an appearance.

HIS WORSHIP, in consequence of their non-attendance, adjourned the cases until tomorrow. The witnesses were ordered to be summoned, and instructions were also given for Captain Anderson to be desired to attend the Court, and explain why they had not appeared in accordance with his promise to his Worship.

24th October.

R. (Captain ANDERSON) v. VALTIMORE ORSON,
JACOB OLSEN and S. MAGNUSSEN.

MAGNUSSEN and ORSON v. T. DAVIS.

Desertion and Assaults.

These cases were before the Court on the 22nd and 23rd inst. respectively. Captain Anderson, the master of the barque *Euclid*, first charged Orson, Olsen and MagnusSEN with desertion, and they admitted the offence, Orson and MagnusSEN alleging that it was owing to the violence of the second mate, T. Davis, that they left the ship. Two summonses were granted against Davis for assaulting them, and defendant, at the hearing, admitted having slapped both the complainants, but alleged that they gave him insolence. To-day two witnesses appeared and substantially confirmed the evidence given by the complainants.

His WORSHIP ordered Olsen and Orson to pay the costs of the Court, and to forfeit their wages for the time they were away from the ship. He believed MagnusSEN had left the ship through fear of Davis, and allowed him to go without punishment. Davis was fined \$10 and costs for assaulting MagnusSEN, and \$5 and costs for assaulting Orson. All the men were ordered to return to the ship.

Extracts.

ITEMS FROM INDIAN PAPERS.

The *Indian Daily News* says the Mint Masters of Calcutta and Bombay have been authorized by the Government of India to obtain from Australia the quantity of copper required by them for mint purposes, when the present stock is exhausted.—Cholera has been making fearful havoc amongst the troops, principally Europeans at Fyzabad, nearly sixty of whom have succumbed since the outbreak. Eleven funerals took place in one day last week. The principal sufferers have been H.M.'s 25th. The Artillery have also suffered in proportion to their strength; but, strange to say, the natives have enjoyed comparative immunity from the scourge.—A large number of famine-stricken people have lately flocked into Rewari from Ulwar, in consequence, it is said, of the closing of relief-works in the latter place; and the distress in the Gurgaon district is very severe.—Private letters from Srinuggur state that the Agent is sending everyone from the valley on account of the famine, which is very severe. A hundred and more are dying daily. The worst of it is, that even with money the people cannot buy anything; and yet the Wazir, in order to prevent the English Government from interfering, makes all the bigwigs sign a paper to say that the famine is all over.—The convict Rajah of Pooree has been transported to the Andamans, the local police conducting the operation with all the secrecy of a diplomatic transaction. It is understood it was always the intention of Government that their distinguished prisoner should ultimately be removed to this island retreat, but his transfer was accelerated by the fact that the prison authorities here found it was impossible to keep him amenable to the ordinary jail discipline. Prisoners, warders, and visitors all seemed to connive at making things easy for the holy man. Outside the jail it was known that money was used unsparingly on his behalf, and money goes a long way in this country. It remains to be seen if its influence will reach across the sea.

The *Friend of India* states that the Lahore paper gives currency to a rumour that Sir George Couper is to be removed from the Lieutenant-Governorship, and Sir Edward Bayley sent out from England to fill the vacancy.—There seems, says the same paper, to be considerable misapprehension as to the action of the Punjab Government in prohibiting for the present season the visit of European visitors to Kashmir; and it has been stated that instead of opening the passes to encourage the influx of corn, and

the construction of roads into the country, to encourage a lucrative stimulus to the industries of the country by the means of European visitors, the exact converse has been done, viz., to close the passes to prevent emigration, and to confine the starving population in the country. The action of the Punjab Government it is said, is not thus truly described. The passes have not been closed to the import of grain or exit of emigrants; every effort has been made to pour grain into the country, and a telegram received from the Commissioner of the Rawalpindi Division, dated the 6th instant, states that "all assistance, short of impressment of carriage, is given at Jhelum and at Rawalpindi to the Maharajah's agents. Large quantities of grain have been sent and go daily." The Maharajah has several times been addressed, and urged to permit the emigration of the starving people from the valley, with their families, and to give them that assistance without which they would be unable to undertake such a journey; but there is as yet no knowledge whether the expression of this wish has found a response.

According to the *Delhi Gazette*, the Lord Bishop of the Punjab is still at Simla and is exerting himself to raise money to aid the famine-stricken in Cashmere. The three sermons delivered in the Church to-day all pointed out the necessity for giving our mites towards the relief of the unfortunate inhabitants of the valley. The Bishop himself preached one of these, and our eloquent Archdeacon pastor the other two. In the *Civil and Military Gazette* of the 5th, there is an account of the famine and its causes, i.e., the tyranny of the Cashmere authorities. To this information the Rev. Mr. Mathew added a startling bit when he announced that according to reliable accounts received from the missionaries in Cashmere, one-fourth of the population have already perished of hunger. It is proposed by our philanthropic Bishop to import grain into the valley, and as he is aided in his laudable endeavours by the Archdeacon and the well-known missionary the Rev. Mr. Clarke, no doubt success will attend his undertaking.

The *Pioneer* states that Shere Ali is said to lean (as the future King of Afghanistan) towards his grandson, Ahmed Ali Jan, son of Mahomed Ali Khan, who, it will be remembered, was killed near Khilat-i-Ghilzi in 1865, when fighting for the Afghan throne by his father's side against Surdar Azim Khan. All the joy of victory was, on that occasion, as Wyllie puts it, clouded by grief for the loss of his favourite son, and Shere Ali for some weeks remained bereft of reason. This Ahmed Ali Jan is described as an intelligent lad of eighteen or twenty years, of engaging manners, and tolerably well educated. But he will have an up-hill game to play in conciliating the mother of the deceased Abdulla Jan, and securing the powerful Ghilzai interest which she commands. This lady, whose influence over the Ameer brought about the downfall of Yakob Khan, has another son, younger than Abdulla, deaf and dumb unfortunately, and therefore utterly incapacitated from acting the cat'spaw to his clever mother and her unscrupulous followers. The report of Yakob's escape is still unconfirmed, and is probably false, while it is again asserted that a long and rigorous confinement has broken his health and spirit.

The cultivation of chinchona in the Wynaad, says the *Madras Mail*, is making head rapidly. The Ooty paper says that nearly a million of plants have been taken to Wynaad this year from Neddiiwuttum estates, in addition to the extensive chinchona nurseries grown on all the coffee estates. All the poorer parts of the coffee estates are being planted with chinchona, which has been found to thrive well where coffee will not grow. On many of the new estates, chinchona is being planted at regular intervals with the coffee, for the purpose of shade.

Colombo, as has been before stated, has been made the Ceylon port of call under the new mail contract. Captain Bayley, the Agent at Galle, has been told to prepare for the transfer in 1880. The *Ceylon Observer* says:—"Although the change is imperative only from first July, 1880, our readers may rely on it that the P. & O. steamers will commence calling at Colombo long before that date."—The *Ceylon Times* says the Messageries Maritimes steamers will resume calling at Colombo monthly from October to April next. The first steamer will be the *Amazon*, outwards, and the *Sindh*, homewards.

Writing on the value of breakwaters to shipping, the *Ceylon Times* says:—"Already the protecting influence of our breakwater is being turned to profitable account. The barque *Kingdom of Sweden* laden with locomotives for our railway, is able to ride quietly at anchor inside the harbour, sheltered from the action of the billows outside by the breakwater. She draws 17 feet and rides in 22 feet, which she could not have done but for the protection of the breakwater. This is of special importance in landing such cumbersome pieces of mechanism as full sized locomotives, which is now being done in perfect safety, and with far greater rapidity than could have been the case but for this arrangement."

OPIUM GROWING IN CHINA.

(Daily Press.)

Chinese officials take two different views on the question of the cultivation of the poppy in the Celestial Empire. One class, though publicly denouncing the production of opium in China, are really desirous that it should be secretly encouraged to the end that it may ultimately drive the foreign drug out of the market and do away with the necessity for the import from India. The other section regard the growth of the poppy on Chinese soil with unqualified disapprobation, some—and these are few, we fear—from unfeigned dislike of the habit of smoking, and would fain see not only the cultivation of the poppy suppressed, but the use of opium forbidden by law. Others find in the spread of opium production in China a serious encroachment on the area available for the cultivation of cereals, and they also discover in the native drug a source of considerable loss to the revenue. This was felt so severely in Shingking that the Taotai of Newchwang memorialised the Throne on the subject, pointing out to what an extent the revenue had suffered through the falling off in the import of Indian drug. Several memorials and decrees have appeared at various times on the cultivation of the poppy in China, but in spite of the Imperial edicts report says that its gaudy flowers are still conspicuous in several provinces. The sincerity of the Chinese Government in regard to their attempts to put down the habit of smoking and the production of the drug in China is extremely doubtful, though that of Kwoh Sung-tao and some few others cannot be questioned.

From a memorial in the *Peking Gazette* of the 1st September it appears that His Excellency Tso Tung-tang, the Viceroy of Kansuh and Shensi, has entered the lists in the crusade against poppy cultivation. In the memorial in question he reports the steps taken in the provinces under his rule to put a stop to this industry. After dwelling on the loss to the country, caused by the substitution of this plant for cereals, he goes on to say that on his return to Kansuh he had repeatedly prohibited cultivation of the poppy by proclamation, issuing at the same time a four character rhyming admonition which he caused to be printed and widely distributed. "These exhortations and prohibitions," continues the memorialists, "have not been entirely without effect during the last few years, but nevertheless there still exists a large amount of quiet and stealthy cultivation in the outlying districts and hamlets, while it is not an uncommon practice to mingle the crop with beans and wheat in order to avoid detection and the up-rooting that would follow." Two years ago a list of penalties to be inflicted in case of negligence in the matter of supervision was forwarded by the Board of Civil Office, when renewed efforts were made by

Tao and his deputy to suppress the evil. Fresh instructions were issued to local authorities, the military were called in to aid in the work of inspection, and special officers were deputed to assist the local authorities in making a thorough search throughout their respective jurisdictions, while Intendants of Circuit and Prefects were directed to visit the villages on horseback from time to time. "These visits were made several times each month, and whenever the poppy was found to be mingled with the bean or corn crop it was hoed up or rooted out, until the land was everywhere ploughed up and irrigated preparatory to receiving an orthodox crop, and not a flower or plant of the poppy was to be seen, the land hitherto devoted to its cultivation being once more put to a proper use." The reports received from most of the prefectures and departments were satisfactory, but in the Ning-hia prefecture the occupiers set the law and the authorities at defiance, and when the famine came upon Shansi it was found that there was no grain for sale in this prefecture, and great distress was suffered. Since then the Viceroy has, he states, sought to vanquish the practice of growing opium by "arguing the question on utilitarian grounds, and pointing out to the people how they could reap almost equal profits by the cultivation of cotton or grain, which would realise high prices in years of dearth and scarcity; crops, moreover, that have this advantage over the poppy, that they are sanctioned by law and are not liable to be rooted up and destroyed." The whole tenor of the memorial, however, is to reveal the difficulties which lie in the path of those who would abolish the cultivation of the poppy. Tao denounces the carelessness and inattention of some of the officers charged with the execution of his orders. These delinquents no doubt following the usual custom, had accepted squeezes to allow the cultivation to be carried on. When the Viceroy of a province thus confesses that it is next to impossible to put a stop to the growth of the poppy, is it likely that the decree prohibiting the smoking of the drug can be enforced?

ELECTRIC LIGHT VERSUS GAS LIGHT.

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the *Journal of Gas Lighting*, &c., by Dr. Lewis Thompson:—

SIR,—Although I had a hope that my gas days were ended, yet I now find myself compelled to seek refuge from labour by again taking up the pen upon the subject of gas lighting. In point of fact, so many persons have lately begged of me to favour them with my opinions upon the relative merit of electric light as compared with gas light, that I turn to your pages as the readiest mode of meeting and stopping the demand made upon me, though I cannot avoid saying that my opinions upon this matter appear to be greatly overvalued.

So far as the subject has yet been developed, it seems that the most economical form of electric lighting is obtained by an electric lamp, worked by one-horse power, and producing a light equal to 700 spermaceti candles; but any attempt to diminish this light is followed by a rapid increase in the comparative cost; so that, for all practical purposes in domestic economy, we are justified in asserting that it is impossible to produce an electric light equal to 15 spermaceti candles. Such a light has never yet been produced; and, if produced by any of the electric systems now in use, it would be found to be enormously expensive, and would far exceed the cost even of wax and spermaceti candles.

Under these circumstances, it seems, at least, to me, that no kind of rivalry or competition ought to exist between electric and gas lighting, for the electric light, if it ever comes into use, can only do so as a kind of wholesale light, or dealer in large quantities, whilst the gas-maker is content to supply the million with small or large quantities in small lots; in short, the one offers nothing less than 700 candles, and the other anything you please, down to one candle.

But, turning in another direction, by way of comparison, we may remark that for one person who wants to buy a whole sheep, there are ten thousand persons who require only a mutton chop; consequently, the retail butcher does not find himself in competition with the cattle dealer; or, if we are to speak in Yankee phraseology, we may say that the electric light

"goes the whole hog," whilst the gas light is content with a "rasher of bacon."

In truth, the two lights have as yet no kind of rivalry, from a domestic or consumer's point of view; nor have any facts been developed which tend to show that the electric light can be so modified as to come into business competition with gas lighting.

This however, is, by a very great deal, the smallest of the objections that can be raised to the domestic use of the electric light; but to render myself intelligible here, I must be permitted to say a few words about light itself, merely premising that in these remarks the Newtonian or corpuscular theory of light is adopted in preference to the undulatory theory. Thus regarded, light exists under two forms, which may be called "quantity" and "intensity," and these forms cannot be made to pass into or substitute each other; thus no amount of red-hot charcoal can ever produce a light having an intensity equal to the light of the sun; nor can the sun's rays be so modified as to give a light similar to that of red-hot charcoal. The first form, or "quantity of light," depends upon the number of particles of light in motion; the second form, or "intensity of light," depends upon the velocity with which these particles revolve around their own axes; so that light has two motions, which may be compared to the annual and diurnal motions of the earth, or, perhaps still better, to the motions of a rifle-bullet. In passing from one point to another, each particle of light travels at a rate which has been estimated as equal to 170 000 miles per second, but whilst so travelling it revolves or spins upon its axis with greater or less rapidity, and it is the rate of this rapidity which gives rise to the intensity of the light. Under all circumstances the travelling rate of light is uniform, but the revolving or spinning rate may vary greatly; and it is most likely this spinning motion which acts upon the organ of vision in animals, so that it is quite possible for a certain rate to produce no action—or darkness—upon the eye of one animal, and yet act strongly so as to produce clear vision in the eye of another animal. The perfection of a light for human use would seem to be a combination of great quantity, with such intensity as the optic nerve in the human retina is capable of bearing without strain or violence; and Providence has evidently aimed at this, for the area of the sun, which supplies us with light, is so vast that the quantity of particles emitted at the same moment is enormous, and, consequently, the sun's light has great quantity, whilst its intensity is so excessive that a provision has been made in the retina of the eye to counteract the injurious effects of that intensity. This provision consists in a thickened yellow spot or shield, upon which the condensed rays fall in the form of a focus, and thus protect the nerve or retina from violence. Now, it is only when the particles of light are travelling in lines parallel to each other that they can be reduced to a small focus equal to the size of this yellow spot—a condition beautifully secured by the great distance of the sun, which renders all the rays parallel, but which can never be obtained by any terrestrial light, in consequence of its near proximity to the eye or organ of vision. In all kinds of artificial light, therefore, the rays are very much dispersed, and possess none of that parallelism which softens the action of solar light, so that the rays of artificial light are not confined to the yellow spot or shield of the retina, but spread over the entire surface of the optic nerve, and thus create at first a sense of irritation, then a feeling of weariness, and ultimately a kind of exhaustion or dimness of sight, which, if long continued, ends in paralysis, or, as it is called by surgeons, "amaurosis." Nor is this the only disease produced by artificial light, for the divergence of the rays throws an additional strain upon the refractive powers of the crystalline lens, thus giving rise to a chronic inflammation, which leads to that form of opaque deposit in the lens called "cataract;" and these evil consequences we see are caused by the want of two conditions that exist in solar light—first, the near proximity of artificial light, as compared with solar light, causes great divergence or radiation; secondly, the small area of artificial light, compared with the solar area, adds immensely to that divergence, and thus greatly increases the evil. If I was asked whether I would prefer the light from 15 spermaceti candles to

that from a gas-burner giving a light equal to 15 spermaceti candles, I would say in a moment, "Give me the candles," because the luminiferous area of the candles is much greater than that of the gas-burner, and, moreover, the intensity or whiteness of the light is less in the candles than in the gas light, consequently it will irritate the eyes less. But, if I would thus prefer a candle to a gas light, what must I say to an electric light, in which the luminiferous area is a mere speck, and the intensity of the light enormous? My answer is easy. Such a light is altogether unfit for domestic use; and if ever it is generally adopted, I venture to predict that cases of amaurosis and cataract will be as plentiful as blackberries in autumn.

This, of course, is only my unsupported opinion; but there I am content to leave the question.

LEWIS THOMPSON.

August 28th, 1878.

THE NEXT CREDIT STORM.

(Bristol Mercury.)

It is said that the best thing you can do with a prophet in the East when he prophesies evil is to bowstring him, because, if left alone, he is apt to take measures, particularly if his prophecy involves a massacre of the Christians, to aid in the fulfilment of his prediction, and perhaps if we were wise we should put under lock and key the man who takes it into his head to talk of the next credit storm, because we know from long and painful experience that a man has only to talk of a storm of this kind long and loud enough to bring it about. But prophesying in this country is free, and if a man like Mr. A. J. Wilson likes to come forward in the *Fortnightly Review* with a handful of Bank Accounts, to ask ugly questions about the state of the till—what has been done with the money—how it has been invested—what the Banks are doing with the extra capital they have called upon—how they contrive to pay the high dividends they pay at present—and to predict a storm one of these days, all that can be done is to meet him on his own ground and to discuss the question with him in all frankness. The Banks themselves may in most cases set the matter at rest by ten words of explanation if the points raised by Mr. Wilson are open to explanation, and perhaps in their own interest those ten words ought to be spoken, for although Mr. Wilson's suggestions are in the main bare conjectures they are suggestions which are too plausible in themselves not to pass as the true explanation of a state of things which has for a long time puzzled all of us. How is it that the Banks contrive to pay their present dividends when mines, manufactories, and everything else that British capital is invested in pay nothing at all or next to nothing? This question has puzzled more people than Mr. Wilson; and it puzzles many of us still. All the world is talking of the dulness of trade. We can hardly pick up a trade circular or a chairman's speech at some half-yearly company meeting without finding in it allusions to the depressed condition of our national industries and the unsatisfactory character of the profits. In the iron and coal trades particularly, things have gone from bad to worse. Some of the largest smelting works in the country have ceased to produce, and hundreds of smaller concerns either work along in great distress or disappear altogether, leaving little but debts to indicate that they ever existed. Prices in all departments of business almost have been falling continuously for many months, and therefore, although the bulk of the trade done may have been in some cases nearly as large as ever, it has often been trade conducted at a loss. Sheffield languishes for lack of demands for its cutlery. Bradford is oppressed with an excess of manufacturing power for the "stuffs" which have no free market. Manchester warehouses are groaning beneath the weight of unsold and at present unsaleable cotton goods. The sugar industry has almost departed from Bristol; and at nearly all centres of raw silk manufacture stocks accumulate and prices sink. Yet if we turn to the Banks, instead of finding in their reports the reflection of this stagnation, we find, with a few exceptions, nothing but signs of prosperity. Their dividends keep up. Their reserves increase. Deposits flow in until one wonders what can be meant by complaints about bad trade, declining profits, and

industrial distress. So steady is the apparent growth of prosperity on the part of the country Joint-Stock Banks in particular, that they are even calling up more capital in order to meet the demands of an extended business. Some of the Banks pay 20 and 22 per cent. Even the second-rate Banks pay 12 and 15 per cent., and shareholders grumble if they receive less than 10 per cent.

This is the puzzle that Mr. Wilson has set himself to solve. How are these dividends paid? And particularly how does it happen that the Banks in country districts pay a higher rate of interest upon their capital than the London Banks? Agriculture has been an unprofitable occupation for years past in this country. We have had at least two bad harvests in succession. Foreign competition in the supply of food of all kinds has at the same time been on the increase, and the farmers' old compensation for a bad year—high prices—can no longer be secured. Yet, in spite of all this, the rural Banks pay most flourishing dividends. Possibly these higher dividends of country Banks may be explained in part by the custom of country Banks charging 5 and 6 per cent. upon their bills when the Bank rate is only 2 or 3 per cent. But Banking now-a-days means much more than a mere discounting of bills, and one of Mr. Wilson's suggestions is that Bankers, instead of confining themselves to bills are now lending heavily on stocks and shares and house property of all descriptions, helping to float loans, backing adventures in railways, mining, house-building, and navigation, and that it is in this way the Banks are paying their dividends, at present. It is impossible, of course, to prove that this is the case, because the Banks, in preparing their accounts for publication, often heap all the items of a Bank balance sheet—cash, securities, advances, bills, property, and overdrawn accounts—into a lump sum, and even where details are given they are rarely or ever minute enough to enable one to tell even approximately what the true position of an institution may be. But a little chink often lets in a great light, and taking up the accounts of two or three Banks, Mr. Wilson finds that four selected Banks whose acceptances are much reduced, now hold between them a larger amount of securities, i.e., no less than £3,800,000 worth of stock, independently of the amounts pawned to them by customers as security for advances and of which no indication is given. The London and County has some £800,000 more than its capital and reserves together, looked up in investments. But the figures of the National Provincial Bank of England are the most striking of all. This Bank has now deposits amounting to upwards of £26,000,000 and its money invested in stocks probably exceeds £8,000,000—the increase in the resources of the Bank driving it more and more to seek a profitable use for its money in investments in stocks. Now if that is the case with a Bank like the National Provincial, which from its position is able to draw to itself a better share of such good banking business as is to be had, what must be the case with Banks which are not in the position of the National Provincial? Taking the accounts themselves, the facts that stand out most conspicuously are (1) that in the course of the past four years the advances to customers upon security, or on mere current account, have gone on increasing year by year—Lloyd's Banking Company and the Birmingham Joint-Stock Bank, for instance, increasing this item in their accounts by nearly four millions, and all the rest of the Northern and Midland Banks in proportion; (2) that a heavy increase has taken place in the amount of trade bills held by the Banks; (3) that there has been a decrease in the amount of available cash; and (4) that there has been an increase in the amount of capital and revenue. These are apparently all signs of prosperity; but the true explanation, in Mr. Wilson's opinion, is that the Banks are poor and their customers poorer—the customers so poor that they have had to come to the banks again and again for advances of cash, in order to carry on their trade—too often a losing trade—and that it is these advances which swell the totals on the debit side of "deposit and current accounts." These seeming large increases in the deposits are, in other words, merely cross entries. A customer of a Bank gets, say, a loan of £10,000 on "current account," i.e., is allowed to overdraw to that amount with or without security, and the Bank immediately credits his account with the overdraft, which then

appears in the balance-sheet of the Bank as a "liability on current and deposit account."

The accounts, made up in this fashion, look well, particularly well, and the transactions themselves may for a time be very profitable, because the Bank can charge 5 per cent., and 1 per cent. commission on the amount of the overdrawn accounts, or even more. At the end of the half-year the profits are added up and distributed as a big dividend to the shareholders. A farther call on capital account is then made at a large premium; in order to provide further means for supporting these credits, and all goes swimmingly. But, as Mr. Wilson points out, these Banks are not, therefore, rich or sound, and may be the very reverse, because it all depends on the nature of the securities they hold whether or not they can ultimately weather the storm which such financing is sure to breed. Mr. Wilson takes the balance-sheets of two Banks in '73 and '77 in order, if possible, to find out from them what the course of business has been, and finding from these that the Banks have been buying stock and making advances to their customers all round, the conclusion he comes to is that though trade has been bad, merchants have gone on buying and selling, and the banks have hitherto sustained them under the losses incident to a narrower and a falling market. Farmers have suffered from short crops and low prices, and they in turn have been helped by their bankers in the hope that a better time will come when high profits will permit losses to be recouped. Manufacturers have kept their mills running in order to be ready for a revival of trade when it came. Miners have continued their output in the same way, and the net upshot of it all has been constantly falling prices and dwindling resources. The Banks are therefore choked with pawned securities of all kinds—stocks and shares, mortgages on property, on manufactured goods, on raw produce, and are under advances without security innumerable. The losses of the community from those and other causes have thus so far been buried in the banks! Of course if that is the case, Bank shareholders have many of them an ugly quarter of an hour to go through when they wake up to find that a large proportion of the advances they have been making are advances which cannot be recovered;—and that is the conclusion Mr. Wilson draws from his investigation of our Bank accounts. "Had this country rushed into war and begun to call up large sums of money on loan, that would have brought on a financial crisis at once. But it will come not less surely, though not perhaps so soon, should the world once more settle down to an uncomfortable armed peace."

Trade will wake up a little now that peace is concluded, and with its revival there will be an immediate pressure on the floating capital in bankers' hands. More bills for large amounts will be drawn and offered for discount, and directly these reach a certain volume the bankers will find themselves without money to conduct their proper business. An effort will then be made to sell some of the securities held, or loans will be called in, involving sharp losses, and attempts will be made to get rid of mortgages, all with a view to find money for trade purposes. This will in the first place produce a heavy fall in Stock Exchange securities, and may induce something like a panic. Banks will then in some cases have either to face losses or to hold on to their securities and trust to weathering the storms, and the pressure for money may compel many of them to take the former alternative. For it will very soon be found that there is little or no available money to be got hold of, and as a consequence few buyers of securities to be had. Private people will in fact want to sell as well as Banks, in order to get cash for trade purposes. Depositors may then also begin to take alarm, and by asking for their cash force some Banks to close their doors; the reserve of the Bank of England will become depleted, and we shall find ourselves, as usual, issuing a practically inconvertible paper currency in order to allay public apprehension." The prospect is not a pleasant one, and we hope the sagacity and good management of the Banks themselves will spare us the catastrophe which Mr. Wilson sketches so graphically. But there is his prophecy, and those whom it concerns will do well to take the hint which it carries with it—and to take it in time.

Clippings.

The modern Domesday Book contains some very interesting facts, but there is none which is perhaps more surprising than the fact therein given, that the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, who is known for one of the richest ladies in the country, only possesses in the whole of Great Britain eleven acres of land. These eleven acres are in the county of Surrey, and are returned as being worth 92l. a year.

The s.s. *Diomed*, which has arrived from the North, is now completing her 21st voyage from Liverpool to China and Hain again. She has been a very successful boat, and with one exception has never met with an accident. About 5 years ago she was in collision with one of the Messageries steamers. She has now been running about 10 years, and Capt. Jackson, her present commander, has been in her the whole time, as second and chief officer, and latterly, about 7 years, as master.—*China Mail*.

The *Osservatore Romano* says that in less than a month letters have been received from 548 Roman Catholic journalists throughout Europe who intend to take part in the Press pilgrimage to Rome on the anniversary of the Pope's election. To these and future adherents from Europe must be added those to come from other parts of the world.—A new Baptist chapel—the third—is about to be built in Rome. Signor Alessandro Petocchi is to be the minister.

This is the season for continental trips, it is the season of gales, but it is providentially the season of apples also. The application of this remark lies in the fact which, after much experience, I vouch for energetically, that ripe apples discussed at leisure during a seapassage are an unfailing preventive for seasickness. I have munched my apples in cynical content for some years, as no one would believe me; but a medical friend has given my remedy a scientific sanction which will weigh more than the evidence of experience. He says that the acid of apples has strong anti-bilious properties. I therefore publish my specific to the world.—*The World*.

The favourite clipper ship *Halloween* arrived at Sydney on the 5th September, having made an excellent passage of -80 days. She left the Downs on the 11th June, with westerly winds; landed the pilot at Portland on the 14th; took a final departure from Lizard on the 16th. Had light airs and calms for eight days off Cape Finisterre; the N.E. trades were light, and were lost in 12° W.; crossed the Equator on the 13th July, in longitude 27° W.; the S.E. trades were very unsteady and far southward; the Meridian of Greenwich was passed on the 1st August, in latitude 39° S.; ran the easting down on a mean parallel of 43° S.; winds moderate and unsteady; rounded Tasmania on the 30th August, 75 days out; from thence to port, light northerly winds prevailing.—*Sydney Paper*.

A meeting of ladies was held at Sydney on the 17th of July to form an association for promoting the growth of silkworms and the cultivation of the silk industry, which, it was considered, could be much better practised by women than by men, and even children could engage in it. Lady Robinson presided, and the meeting was addressed by Lady Stephen, Mrs. Bladen Neill, Miss Osborne, and other ladies. It was determined to establish a branch of the Ladies' Sericultural Society of Victoria, there being in that colony a statute protecting the property of married women vested in such a society. It was hoped that arrangements would be made with the New South Wales Government, that a number of children now in orphan asylums may be placed in a mulberry nursery or in two or three cottages, under the general superintendence of a committee of ladies, to be trained in the silk industry, and that young mulberry trees may be distributed among farms throughout the colony. Subscriptions were at once obtained, and a hope was expressed that ladies in England will subscribe. It was thought that the amount might afterwards be returned to them in silk produced upon a silk farm.

The projected introduction of opium-cultivation into Eastern Africa, to which reference was made in the *Academy* some time back, seems likely to become an accomplished fact. The Portuguese Government having made a grant of 50,000 acres of uncultivated State land in Mozambique for the experiment, the agent of a company formed for the purpose visited Malwa not long ago to obtain seeds and make himself acquainted with the methods of cultivation and preparation. The company is to have a monopoly for 12 years, with the privilege of exporting the opium duty free. The poppy plants are reported to be thriving; but the question whether East Africa will become a successful rival of North India in the opium trade will probably be decided, according to the *Time of India*, not so much by the effect of climate as by the cost of collecting the drug, which, again, must be determined by the result of a trial whether an African negro will, in performing labour requiring little brute strength and much delicate manipulation, do as much work for as little pay as an Indian coolie. — *Academy*.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson, at an agricultural dinner in Cumberland, in referring to the Cattle Bill, said he should be glad if the farmers got anything that did them real good, for they had had a series of depressing years. Nevertheless, they were not always so badly off as they liked to represent themselves. One Scotch farmer had determined, in spite of the bad times, to pay his rent, if it were his last shilling, and saying to the factor who received it, "It is my last shilling!" he threw down a roll of notes. The factor counted them, and said, "There is £50 too much." "Odds, man!" said the farmer, "I put my hand in the wrong pouch." That is a good story of Sir Wilfrid's. To many people, the fiction that they have come to their last shilling has a peculiar pathos in it. Even if it be only the last shilling in one particular pocket, there is a tragedy of privation in the bare hypothesis that they might have no other resource, which makes them feel like a Hamlet or a Macbeth, as they for a moment ignore in imagination the other pockets containing other last shillings. — *Spectator*.

A very strange photograph is on exhibition in the window of the Berlin Photographic Company, newly opened in Oxford Street, near the Circus. It is the photograph of a picture by Gabriel Max—a head of Christ. At first view it seems to be dead, and the eyes are shut. As we continue looking, the eyes, of a sudden, seem to be open, and to be gazing intently at some point above us and behind us. The street-boys go in crowds to look at it; and if any man or woman should be there, giving a passing glance at this extraordinary head, they detain him or her with an air of superior knowledge, and say, "If you look long enough the eyes will open." This effect is perfect in the large-size photographs, which are naturally placed high enough to compel the eye to accept the delusion. If, on the other hand, we look at the

smaller photographs—sold for a shilling—the effect is not so certain; and there are gazers who cannot see that the eyes are closed. As a rule, the difference may be observed in this way: If we begin by looking at the chin, and then gradually look upward, we shall see the eyes shut and the whole head corpse-like; but if we begin from the highest point and travel downwards, we shall see the eyes open and the head illuminated. The strange weird picture from which these photographs are taken was in the French Gallery during the past season, and is now, it is stated, being exhibited in the provinces.

Captain F. A. Schulz, of the schooner *Alerta*, writing from Tamsui on the 18th instant, says:—"I now beg to inform you that I arrived here safely on the 16th instant after a passage of 11 days, the hardest I ever had during the 18 years I have been on the coast of China. On leaving your port, on the 5th instant, it was my intention to proceed up the Formosa Channel, but seeing towards evening that I was losing ground, I kept away for the South end of Formosa, sighting Ape-hill on the next day at noon. Noticing some unusual appearance in clouds and atmosphere and the barometer going down steadily, I got cautious, but still kept going for the South cape, with dirty rainy weather, and a fearful cross-sea from S.E. and N.W. At 8 P.M. the barometer having fallen 5 tenths since 10 A.M., and being certain that there was a typhoon raging somewhere, but not yet certain of its bearing and track, I hove too, and soon found that it was to the South and Eastward of me and moving to Westward. In order to get sea-room, and to get clear of the track of the storm, I ran a hundred miles N. W. by W. and there hove too again. It kept on blowing frightfully during the 7th and 8th, the wind shifting several points suddenly, accompanied with furious squalls, and moderated on the 9th with a nice easterly breeze. It was rather tedious now to reach the South cape, with I doubled on the 7th day out from Amoy. After that I have not had a dry hour until my arrival here. I am glad to be able to say that the vessel received no damage whatever during this storm and behaved very well indeed."

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Appin*, for Tientsin—Rev. Mr. Fisher.
Per str. *Europe*, for Foochow—Messrs. N. J. Hannen and R. P. Hunter.
Per str. *Hiroshima Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. W. R. Eastlack. For Hiogo—Mr. Koho-yashi. For Yokohama—Miss A. C. Sufford, Mrs. Muirhead. For Paris—Mr. Hewik Bohr.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Hiroshima Maru*, from Japan—Mr. and Mrs. Lindsley, Mrs. Drummond, Mrs. Jerdein, Mrs. Holliday, Mrs. Fabris and six children, Messrs. J. H. Scott, Cheyne, Leechman, G. Joy, Bushby, Fisher, Tallant, F. Major, Maclay, Whittall, Negin and Easmi.

Per str. *Appin*, from Tientsin—Mr. White.
Per str. *Kiangching*, from Hankow—Mrs. Platt.
Per str. *Loudoun Castle*, from Hongkong, &c.—Mrs. Murray and child, Miss Gilchrist, Miss Brookes, Miss Warren, and Mr. Murray.
Per str. *Sin Nanxing*, from Tientsin—Mrs. Birt and family.
Per str. *Gwalior*, from Southampton—Mr. W. Forbes. From Singapore—Mr. Holmes. From Hongkong—Miss Emerson, Mrs. F. N. Butt and infant, Mr. R. S. Raphael.
Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Poate, Ritchie.
Per str. *Hankwang*, from Tientsin—Mr. Forbes and 2 Mandarins. From Chefoo—Messrs. Fuller, Schnell.
Per str. *Tunsin*, from Hankow—Rev. E. Mallard.
Per str. *Taku*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—His Excellency Count Sytcheny, Chevalier de Boleslawsky, and Mr. F. J. Marshall.
Per str. *Europe*, from Foochow—Messrs. Bathgate, Maitland, Tottie, Sladget and Bradley.
Per str. *Kiangkwan*, from Hankow and Ports—A Lady Missionary, and Mr. F. Hughes.
Per str. *Haeting*, from Foochow—Messrs. E. Sheppard, A. Duncan, H. Baker and M. Menchinkoff.
Per str. *Pautah*, from Tientsin—H. E. Chung How (Minister to Russia), Shen Da-sin (First Secretary), Tsin Li-tang (Second Secretary), Mr. Hagan (Adviser to the Legation), and M. Poggio (Attaché to the Russian Legation). From Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. C. Lennox Simpson.
Per str. *Antenor*, from Hongkong—Mr. Forrest.
Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—Messrs. H. Hoppius and Grobein, and Captain F. P. Roberts.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Nizam*, for Venice—Dr. E. Henderson and F. W. Lemarchand. For Hongkong—Messrs. A. Cheyne, J. H. Scott and S. Glanville.

Advertisement.

READ

THE

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This seems to be a very readable periodical.—*North-China Herald*.

A very neat and ably-conducted Magazine, styled the *Calcutta Magazine*, edited by Mr. Owen Aratoon, a gentleman of well-known literary talent.—*The Straits Times*.

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SHANGHAI OPIUM AND SILK RETURNS FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1878.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

OPIUM

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 26TH OCTOBER, 1878.

IMPORTED		MALWA.		PATNA.		BENARES.		PERSIAN.	
		Cheats.	Weight.	Cheats.	Weight.	Cheats.	Weight.	Cheats.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels *		119½	119.50	257	308.40	107	128.40	86½	86.50
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Receiving Vessels or landed		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Imported direct to the shore		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....		119½	119.50	257	308.40	107	128.40	86½	86.50
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption		42	42.00	187	234.40	76	90.00	3	3.00

Description.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Total.
RE-EXPORTED.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.	Cheats. Wght.
Malwa	72 72.00	54 54.00	58 58.00	8 8.00	74½ 74.50	103½ 103.50	39 39.00	113 113.00	.. ..	.. ..	10 10.00	532 532.00
Patna	4 4.50	.. ..	1 1.20	9 10.80	.. ..	1 1.20	.. ..	9 10.80	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	24 28.80
Benares	23 27.60	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	7 8.40	.. ..	1 1.20	7 8.40	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	38 45.60
Persian	9 9.00	.. ..	6 6.00	5 5.00	10 10.00	20 20.00	1 1.00	2½ 2.50	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	53½ 53.50
.. ..												
Total.....	108 113.40	54 54.00	65 65.20	22 23.80	91½ 92.90	124½ 124.70	41 41.20	131½ 134.70	.. ..	.. ..	10 10.00	647½ 652.90

* Additional—Turkey Opium, 2 Cheats, wg. 1 picul 25 catties.

SILK.

	TO GREAT BRITAIN.	TO MARSEILLES AND CONTINENT.	TO AMERICA.	TO HONG-KONG, COAST PORTS, &c.	TOTAL CHINA.	JAPAN TRANSSHIPPED.	GRAND TOTAL.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	7,098	12,603	2,623	1,208	23,332	..	23,332
Subsequent Shipments	291	1,789	..	10	2,040	..	2,040
Total....	7,389	14,242	2,623	1,218	25,372	..	25,372

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1878-9.

TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.

TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.—Continued.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.	VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Gleneagles	May 24	London	21,464.33	..	21,464.33	Hector	July 26	London	3,313.89	306.29	3,620.38
Loudoun Castle	" 26	"	20,043.24	..	20,043.24	Standard	" 26	"	4,424.88	36.56	4,461.44
Anchises	" 24	"	327.72	326.18	653.90	Anadyr	" 27	"	0.78	637.69	638.47
Lombardy	" 25	"	392.87	..	392.87	Fleura Castle	Aug. 5	"	20,234.52	..	20,234.52
"	" 25	Bombay	..	89.38	89.38	Surat	" 3	"	3,585.59	602.94	4,188.53
Ocean King	" 29	London	19,092.00	..	19,092.00	"	" 3	Bombay	..	23.25	23.25
Glenartney	" 29	"	17,775.19	..	17,775.19	Teucer	" 9	London	5,659.69	33.50	5,693.19
Radnorshire	" 29	"	16,385.45	..	16,385.45	"	" 10	"	2.23	430.61	423.84
Glenearn	June 1	"	13,699.74	..	13,699.74	City of Baltimore	" 12	"	5,605.87	68.13	5,674.00
Sindh	" 1	Marseilles	12.67	..	12.67	12.67 Pekiu	" 18	"	4,210.04	1,332.61	5,542.65
Sarpedon	" 6	London	17,596.40	..	17,596.40	Mikado	" 20	"	4,441.02	386.31	4,827.33
Stad Haarlem	" 6	"	19,047.73	..	19,047.73	Djemnah	" 24	"	0.42	440.29	440.71
Thibet	" 8	"	3,831.96	..	3,831.96	Windhover	" 31	"	8,722.56	138.07	8,860.63
"	" 8	Hamburg	1.20	..	1.20	Ajax	" 31	"	1,244.39	474.71	1,719.10
"	" 8	Bombay	0.75	39.62	40.37	Strathleven	" 31	"	6,240.05	559.25	6,799.30
Afghan	" 10	London	18,598.93	..	18,598.93	Hesperia	" 31	"	529.29	..	529.29
Hankow	" 13	"	23,067.06	..	23,067.06	"	" 31	Hamburg	25.71	..	25.71
Orestes	" 13	"	1,280.93	..	1,280.93	Kashgar	" 31	London	1,791.43	1,721.23	3,512.66
N'veau Mondelli s.v.	" 13	Nicolaiefsk	1,548.87	..	1,548.87	"	" 31	Venice	1.30	..	1.30
Argyle	" 18	London	11,472.18	..	11,472.18	"	" 31	Bombay	2.66	48.32	50.98
Yangtse	" 15	"	441.15	..	441.15	Iraouaddy	Sept. 7	London	34.00	0.45	34.45
"	" 15	Marseilles	34.22	..	34.22	"	" 7	Bombay	..	26.46	26.46
Menelaus	" 21	London	3,443.14	..	3,443.14	Altona	" 13	London	4,370.00	254.28	4,624.28
Sunda	" 22	"	301.92	..	301.92	Glancus	" 14	"	1,725.44	163.22	1,888.66
"	" 22	Bombay	6.21	35.54	41.75	Khedive	" 14	"	3,930.72	342.25	4,272.97
Coriolanus	" 25	London	11,460.13	..	11,460.13	"	" 14	Bombay	112.80	179.20	292.00
Patroclus	" 27	"	3,742.82	..	3,742.82	Serapis	" 18	London	8,473.18	..	8,473.18
"	" 27	Hamburg	3.20	..	3.20	Titania	" 19	"	6,011.96	..	6,011.96
Ava	" 29	London	227.89	36.00	263.89	Sindh	" 21	"	107.76	..	107.76
"	" 29	Marseilles	11.39	..	11.39	"	" 21	Bombay	..	32.51	32.51
Sestos	July 6	London	2,248.79	369.25	2,618.04	Ulysses	" 25	London	4,721.81	920.71	5,642.52
Teherau	" 6	"	5,152.54	706.87	5,859.41	Hindustan	Oct. 3	Hongkong	..	30.02	30.02
"	" 6	Dunedin	13.59	..	13.59	"	" 3	London	..	396.58	396.58
"	" 6	Bombay	27.41	..	27.41	"	" 3	Bombay	..	202.92	202.92
Achilles	" 9	London	3,448.04	..	3,448.04	Priam	" 3	London	1,240.83	480.70	1,721.53
"	" 9	Odesa	68.70	..	68.70	Syria	" 9	"	4,231.47	404.24	4,635.71
Viking	" 10	London	20,346.69	1,553.81	21,900.50	Diomed	" 9	"	63.76	338.40	402.16
Dago	" 12	"	15,452.59	484.43	15,937.02	Tigre	" 10	"	65.72	238.74	304.46
Amazona	" 13	"	398.47	506.39	904.86	"	" 10	Bombay	..	53.11	53.11
Glengyle	" 17	"	14,595.40	..	14,595.40	Venetia	" 17	London	..	771.26	771.26
Feronia	" 17	"	12,021.98	..	12,021.98	"	" 17	Bombay	..	63.28	63.28
Kolga	" 17	Nicolaiefsk	1,405.18	..	1,405.18	Sarpedon	" 19	London	473.46	882.58	1,356.04
Stentor	" 19	London	3,955.01	373.36	4,328.37	Yangtse	" 23	"	..	209.35	209.35
Cairnsmuir	" 21	"	15,049.57	..	15,049.57	"	" 23	Bombay	..	34.30	34.30
Malabar	" 24	"	9,940.92	880.42	10,821.34	Total			439,859.94	19,973.17	459,833.11
Zambesi	" 20	"	4,905.32	1,167.37	6,072.69						
"	" 20	Bombay	36.98	32.27	69.25						

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1878-9.

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.—Continued.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.	VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Tokio Maru	June 4	Nagasaki	298.76	..	298.76	Hiroshima Maru s.s.	Aug. 6	Chicago	51.50	..	51.50
"	" 4	Hiogo	4.16	..	4.16	Saikio Maru	" 22	New York	208.40	207.12	415.52
"	" 4	Yokohama	4.85	..	4.85	"	" 22	Chicago	..	784.94	784.94
Hiroshima Maru	" 8	New York	236.13	..	236.13	"	" 22	San F'cisco	17.81	1.73	19.54
"	" 8	Boston	141.43	..	141.43	Gleniffer	" 31	New York	285.94	2,528.51	2,814.00
Orestes	" 8	New York	172.07	..	172.07	Nagoya Maru	Sep. 10	"	1.64	493.60	495.24
Nagoya Maru	" 20	"	842.21	..	842.21	"	" 10	Chicago	212.70	550.46	763.16
"	" 20	Boston	88.02	..	88.02	"	" 10	San F'cisco	6.30	115.23	121.53
Menelaus	" 21	New York	44.21	..	44.21	Merionethshire	" 19	New York	687.04	9,185.70	9,872.74
Patroclus	" 27	"	204.33	..	204.33	"	" 26	"	..	3,517.72	3,517.72
Saikio Maru	" 25	Yokohama	14.80	..	14.80	Hiroshima Maru	Oct. 2	Chicago	16.34	960.37	976.71
Tokio Maru	July 2	New York	130.07	..	130.07	"	" 2	San F'cisco	9.00	112.69	121.69
"	" 2	Chicago	76.91	..	76.91	"	" 2	New York	..	699.40	699.40
"	" 2	San F'cisco	235.39	..	235.39	"	" 2	Yokohama	5.54	..	5.54
"	" 2	Nagasaki	3.30	..	3.30	Ocean King	" 10	New York	33.97	6,807.34	6,841.31
Anchises	" 9	New York	1.65	..	1.65	Gleneagles	" 15	"	..	3,980.98	3,980.98
Glenorchy	" 16	"	1,206.57	1,210.07	2,416.64	Genkai Maru	" 14	"	..	440.01	440.01
Saikio Maru	" 22	"	70.98	334.54	405.52	"	" 14	Chicago	..	487.93	487.93
"	" 22	Chicago	..	111.32	111.32	Braemar Castle	" 29	New York	2.27	6,036.69	6,038.96
"	" 22	San F'cisco	..	129.48	129.48	Total			6,408.53	41,240.35	47,648.88
Gordon Castle	" 27	New York	1,093.68	1,852.37	2,946.05						
Hiroshima Maru	" 6	"	1.01	692.15	693.16						

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 30TH OCTOBER, 1878.

PIECE GOODS.—At the date of our last report there was a little enquiry for Shirtings for the North, but it turned out that the quantity wanted was but small, and the demand was soon satisfied. Importers as well as native speculators being ready sellers at the established rates out of their lately arrived supplies; very few other goods have been sold, and at the last scarcely any offers are being made. For American goods there has been, however, a better enquiry; Drills were wanted for Newchwang, and the majority of goods here being firmly held by one Importer, buyers had to pay a rise of 2½ candareens per piece; for Sheetings also better offers than last week have been made, but for the small quantity in stock, holders require something like the rates ruling at the beginning of the month. A few English Drills were sold at low rates, and the demand was soon satisfied. Woollens at Auction are steadier, the quantities offered being more limited, but Fancy Goods remain unsaleable as a general rule except at a reduction. Natives appear to think it likely that Newchwang will not take many more goods this year, but there is no reason that there should not be a final spurt for the Tientsin market during the next month; from other ports the markets are reported dull, and Japan has been taking very few goods.

GREY SHIRTINGS.—8½-lbs. Sales of about 11,000 pieces are reported, viz., Three-Legs at £1.62½, Two-Lion at £1.58, Red Fish at £1.50, Red Ship at £1.48, Red Storks at £1.47½, Lie Eagle at £1.47, and a fair quantity of the goods sold to arrive have been resold at about these rates; for fine 8½-lbs. no demand exists, the few pieces wanted being supplied by natives.

7-lbs.—Sales of 4,500 pieces have been made at £1.33½ for Green Stag, and £1.30 for Anchor, Pagoda and Phoenix. Of 6-lbs. a few have been placed at £1.20. The supply of these weights for the first time for some months is now equal to the demand.

At the Auction yesterday, 8½-lbs. were about ½ cand. lower than last week.

T-CLOTHS.—Beyond the sale of 1,000 pieces 7-lbs. Dollar at £1.37, 500 pieces Lion at £1.07, no business is reported, except at Auction.

WHITE SHIRTINGS.—A solitary sale of 500 pieces 64-reed Black Jess at £1.52½ is quoted; common qualities are undoubtedly lower, natives being ready sellers.

DRILLS.—2,460 pieces have been placed at £1.85 for 14-lbs. Dragon R. and £1.90 for 13½-lbs. Kungyih Dragon. Of American Drills, 4,500 Pepperell have been sold at £2.80 to 2.82½, which latter is the closing price for "hard cargo;" the market is again bare of supplies, with the exception of a large parcel held for higher rates, further quantities are now overdue, but buyers "to arrive" are scarce.

SHEETINGS.—For English goods there has been no enquiry, American have been wanted, but offers scarcely reach holders ideas; further sales of "Damages" have been made.

VELVETS and VELVETEENS are not wanted, and if forced off would go lower, Turkey Red Cambrics are lower, notwithstanding the small quantities offered at Auction.

WOOLLENS.—The Auction sales show rather better prices for Camlets, and Spanish Stripes were about half a candreen higher for T T B, but common chops are without change, Scarlet Long Ells are 1 mace lower. Of Lastings, 200 pieces assorted, vase chop, were sold at £8.05. FIGURED ORLEANS are still in demand, Tientsin patterns being scarce; 600 pieces Mandarin chop realised £3.15.

P.S.—Cotton goods at to-day's Auction are steady, Shirtings being a trifle higher than last week; for Camlets a demand from Szechuen for this chop, caused a rise of 3 to 5 mace per piece on some colors.

YUEN-FONG, 24th inst.	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Lt. Gt.	Black.	Purple.	Green.	Orange.	Mauve.	Ash & Lav.	White.	Total Sales
Camlets S.S.G. p. pce. £	10.85/90	11.05	11.47½/50	11.47½	.....	.....	.....	10.87½/24½	10.97½/21	9.62½	13.02½	...
Sales, pcs...	200	30	170	10	.....	.....	.....	20	30	10	10	480
" G.G. per pce. £	10.87½/90	11.07½	11.47½	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.90	11.00	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	40	10	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	10	.....	.....	130
Long Ells, " £	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
S. Stripes T.T.B. p. yd. £	0.57	0.54½	0.61/1½	.....	.....	0.52½	0.50	.....	.....	0.54	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	66	12	30	.....	.....	6	6	.....	.....	6	.....	126
KIN-MING, 29th inst.												
Camlets C.P.H. p. pce. £	11.70/71	11.90/2½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	130	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	170
Long Ells C.P.H. p. pce. £	6.58/59	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300
Lasting, Lion p. pce. £	.....	.....	.....	.....	11.32/5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
" Elephant p. pce. £	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.65/7½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
S. Stripes C.P.H. p. yd. £	0.53, 6/3½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	96	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96
E-wo, 30th inst.												
Camlets H.D.B. p. pce. £	11.32/3	11.80	11.90	11.77½/90	10.07½	.....	.....	11.05	11.42½	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	80	20	40	30	10	.....	.....	10	20	.....	.....	210
Long Ells H.D.B. p. pce. £	6.47½/50	6.37½	.....	.....	.....	6.26	6.42	5.81	.....	.....	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	200	40	.....	.....	.....	20	20	20	.....	.....	.....	300
Sp. Stripes " p. yd. £	0.54/54.4	0.47½	0.57/57½	.....	0.45	.....	0.49.3	0.47½	0.53½	.....	0.51½	...
Sales, pcs...	48	12	30	.....	6	.....	6	6	6	.....	6	120
MISCELLANEOUS.												
Sp. Stripes Horse p. yd. £	0.50.4/50½	0.46.1	0.57.3	.....	0.46½	0.59.4	0.49½	0.44	.....	0.52½	.....	...
Sales, pcs...	42	12	12	.....	6	6	6	6	.....	6	.....	96

AUCTION SALES OF COTTON GOODS—

"King Ming."—29th instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs.	Blue Ram. £1.53½ to 1.53½	Red Lion. £1.52 to 1.53	Blue Lion. £1.51 to 1.51½	Total. =5,450 pcs.
Sales, pcs...	500	3,150	1,800	

"Nie Kee."—29th instant—

TURKEY RED CAMBRICS.....	Fisherman, 2 to 2½-lbs. £1.26 to 1.46½	Bull Head, 2 to 2½-lbs. £1.26½ to 1.37½	= 450 "
Sales, pcs...	200	250	= 2,000 "

T-CLOTHS—7-lbs. Blue Fish (damaged), at £0.92

"E-wo."—30th instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. £1.61½ ...	Blue Unicorn. £1.57½ ...	Green Unicorn. £1.56 to 1.56½ ...	Red Unicorn. £1.46½ ...	Red Stork. £1.46½ ...	Green Stork. £1.46½ ...	Black Unicorn. £1.52½ ...	Blue Stork. £1.49 to 1.49½ ...	=4,600 "
Sales, pcs...	250	1,000	1,050	1,100	500	200	500	
7-lbs. ....	.....	.....	.....	£1.27½ to 1.28½	.....	£1.36½	.....	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	500	.....	500	.....	=1,000 "
6-lbs. ....	.....	.....	£1.22½	.....	.....	£1.19	.....	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	600	.....	.....	1,140	.....	=1,740 "
T-CLOTHS—8-lbs.	£1.37½	£1.30½	.....	.....	.....	£1.39½ to 1.40½	.....	
Sales, pcs...	250	650	.....	.....	.....	650	.....	=1,550 "

7-lbs.	£1.21½	£1.14 to 1.16½	£1.10	Yellow Unicorn. £1.00 to 1.00½	.....	.....	.....	=4,400 "
Sales, pcs...	250	1,000	1,250	1,900	.....	.....	.....	=1,500 "

T-CLOTHS—6-lbs. Yellow Unicorn, at £0.90½ to 0.90½

JEANS—8-lbs., at £1.25½ to 1.26½

DRILLS—14-lbs. Dragon D, £1.81½; 14-lbs. A, £1.82 to 1.82½

SUNDRY AUCTIONS—

AMERICAN SHEETINGS—Indian Head (damaged), at £2.55 to 2.63

" " Flying Horse (damaged), at £2.55 to 2.61

" " Lion (damaged), at £2.45 to 2.58

" " Drills—Flying Horse (damaged), at £2.62 to 2.68

BLUE HANKERCHIEFS—28-inch Eagle, at £0.40½

VELVETS—22-inch Woman, at £13.53; Velveteens, 26-inch Stag, at £16.6

TURKEY RED CAMBRICS—Gold Dragon 2½ a 2½-lbs., at £1.34½ to 1.38; Gold Lion 2 a 2½-lbs., at £1.22½ to 1.40; Two-Lion 2½-lbs., at £1.11½

=1,150 "

ARTICLES.		QUOTATIONS.		ARTICLES.		QUOTATIONS.	
Cotton Piece Goods.				T.m.c. T.m.c.			
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—				BROAD CLOTH.....per yard			
38½ yds. 39 in. 6-lbs. per piece				1.19 @ 1.27			
7-lbs.				1.30 " 1.41			
8½ to 8½-lbs.				1.45 " 1.74			
Dewhurst XX nom.				1.78 " 2.05			
9 to 9½-lbs.				1.90 " 2.05			
9.12 to 10-lbs. common quality				2.00 " 2.35			
best quality				2.40 " 2.55			
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				SCARLET, 24 yds. 31 in. 12-lbs.			
40 yds. 36 in. 56 reed nom.				6.05 " 6.60			
60 reed nom.				6.00 " 6.30			
64 reed nom.				7.50 " 11.00			
64 reed best				3.70 " 7.50			
66 to 72 reed				2.70 " 3.25			
best				3.15 " 3.55			
				3.10 " 3.45			
				JAPAN COPPER—Slabs per picul			
				15.60 " 15.90			
				14.25 " 14.60			
				52.00 " 53.00			
				3.90 " 4.05			
				3.05 " 3.10			
				3.20 " 3.40			
				15.85 " 15.95			
				15.60 " 15.70			
				15.50 " 15.60			
				2.30 " 2.50			
				16.00 " 18.00			
				4.40 " 4.60			
				4.60 " 5.30			
				IRON—Nail Rod—			
				Dawes' Best per picul			
				1.92½ " 1.95			
				H. Rogers, Sons & Co.			
				1.85 " 1.90			
				M.M. Crown			
				1.75 " 1.80			
				Belgian.....			
				1.62½ " 1.66			
				Flat and Round			
				2.00 " 2.30			
				Do. Belgian.....			
				1.80 " 1.90			
				LEAD, common brands nom. per picul			
				4.20 " 4.30			
				L B.			
				4.42½ " 4.50			
				SUGAR—			
				Black, common per picul			
				2.70 " 3.30			
				Formosa			
				3.20 " 3.70			
				White, No. 1			
				6.20 " 6.60			
				" No. 2			
				5.60 " 6.20			
				" No. 3			
				5.00 " 5.40			
				PEPPER—Black			
				6.70 " 7.00			
				White			
				5.90 " 6.20			
				RATTANS—Common per picul			
				2.20 " 2.60			
				Good to fine			
				3.00 " 4.00			
				Best			
				4.50 " 4.80			
				SAPAN WOOD—			
				3 pieces to the picul			
				2.20 " 2.60			
				6 & 7 " " & inf.			
				1.50 " 1.60			
				SANDALWOOD, South Sea			
				8.00 " 13.00			
				Timor			
				3.20 " 3.60			
				Malabar			
				19.00 " 20.00			
				WINDOW GLASS—			
				Large nom. per box			
				2.15 " 2.40			
				Small do.			
				1.90 " 2.00			
				KEROSENE—Devco's per case			
				1.75 " 1.80			
				COTTON—Shanghai per picul			
				9.70 " 11.20			
				FLINT STONES			
				0.42 " 0.50			

METALS.—The sales of Nail-rod Iron, comprise 8,000 bundles Belgian damaged at £1.57 at Auction, 3,000 bundles Dawes' at £1.93. Of flat Belgian Bar Iron, 100 tons were sold at £1.90.

LEAD is quiet, and the only sale is 50 tons Selby at £4.25.

KEROSENE OIL.—The market remains dull, with very little doing, the nominal price is the same as last week.

FREIGHTS.—*Katie Flickinger*, American schooner, 472 tons, Nagasaki and back, 22 lay days, \$1.65 per ton; *Joyce Phillips*, British barque, 514 tons, Hakodadi to Shanghai, 20 lay days, \$0.25 per picul; *Atmatia*, American schooner, 387 tons, Hakodadi to Shanghai, 20 lay days, \$0.25 per picul; *Lulu*, British schooner, 377 tons, Foochow to Shanghai, 15 lay days, \$1,000, in full.

OPIUM.—Receipts of Opium since last report		MALWA,	635½ Chests.	BENGAL,	535 Chests.
Stock on the 17th instant		"	3,706½	"	1,868
	Total...	"	4,342	Total...	2,403
Deliveries since the 17th instant		"	1,218	"	581
Present Stock		"	3,124	"	1,822
Against Stock same time last year		"	1,466½	"	1,471
Increase		"	1,657½	"	Increase 531

EXPORTS.

SILK.—We quote the following from Mr. W. T. Phipps' circular:—Since the issue of my circular for the English mail a fortnight ago, prices have steadily declined for market chop Tsatlees, and quotations of latest purchases as given below show a fall of Tls. 15 a 20 per picul for silks carrying well-known marks; common and market No. 5 Tsatlees have fairly maintained their values, very few desirable parcels being obtainable below Tls. 330; in both Kahings and Coarse Silks but a trifling business is reported, whilst re-reels have been in good demand for the American market at a slight reduction.

For the out-going steamer the following purchases are reported—

	Per picul.	Per lb.
"May-fong" Elephant	Tls. 377½	= 16/9
Red and Blue Elephant	Tls. 383½ and 373½	= 17/0 and 16/6
Blue Peacock "Tun-ling"	Tls. 372½	= 16/6
S.S.S.	Tls. 350	= 16/7
Common Tsatlees	Tls. 320	= 14/4
Hangchow Tsatlee "Tsang-pin"	Tls. 360	= 16/0

The market closes quiet, with some holders refusing to continue selling at current rates.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

OCTOBER 31, 1878.

ARRIVALS during the week.—October 24th, British barque *Atma*, from Brisbane; 26th, P. & O. steamer *Gwalior*, with the English mails, &c.; 27th, American schooner *Quickstep*, from Puget Sound; 30th, British steamer *Antenor*, from Liverpool.

DEPARTURES during the week.—October 25th, M.M. steamer *Yang-Tsé*, with the French mails, &c.; 26th, British steamer *Braemar Castle*, for New York via Amoy.

The P. & O. mail steamer *Nizam* takes about 1,200 bales of SILK and 50 tons of TMA.

EXCHANGE.—On London, Telegraphic Transfers, 4s. 11d. Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 2½d. a 5s. 2½d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 2½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 2½d. On Paris, Bank, 6.50. Private 8.58. On India, Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 309 to 309½; Calcutta Bank, demand, Rs. 309 to 309½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 28 per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 28½. Bullion, Gold Bars, Peking, Shanghai 11s. 189.50 per bar of 10 Tls. Shanghai weight. Bar Silver, Shanghai 11s. 111.20 per 100 taels Canton weight. Mexican dollars, Shanghai 11s. 72.60 per 100. Copper Cash, 1,465 per tael.

SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 31st October, 1878.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Sales have been made this week at 71, 74 and 76% premium, with exchange 72, and at 75%, and exchange 72½; all for cash. The market is firm, with buyers at the higher rates. No transactions on time are reported.

China Coast Steam Navigation Co.—One lot has changed hands at £102 for cash. The market is quiet.

Shanghai Tug-Boat Association.—There are sellers at £126, but no business is reported.

Pootung Dock Co.—Several lots have been sold at £97.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Business has been done at £153.

Compagnie du Gaz.—One or two sales at £160 are reported.

North-China Insurance Co.—Four shares were sold by tender at £125.

Yangtze Insurance Association.—A transaction is reported at £720.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—A share, to which some contributions of premia are attached, was sold at \$920; a price equal to \$900, and exchange 72.

Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co.—There are buyers at £150, while shares are held for £152.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When paid or due.	Closing.
<i>Bank.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	40,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,200,000	\$19,243.05	30 June 78	* £1	20 Aug. 78	76% prem. ex. 72
<i>Steamer Companies.</i>									
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation)	22,500	£100	£15	.....	.....	30 Dec. 77	{ Return of £2 on capital.	21 Sep. 78	17.20
China Coast Steam Navigation Co.	5,000	£100	£100	£66,273.42	£11,979.42	31 Dec. 77	+ 7 %	15 Mar. 78	102
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	900	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	4 %	21 Sep. 78	125 ex dividend.
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£10,109.90	.....	30 June 78	* 2 %	6 July 78	245
Pootung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	* 5 %	5 July 78	97
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	£100	£100	£8,640.30	.....	31 Dec. 77	* 5 %	15 July 78	153
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	£4,515.76	£1,033.37	31 Dec. 77	* 5½ %	18 July 78	160
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	600	1,666.67	\$500	\$225,000.00	\$92,935.52	30 Apl. 78	12 %	31 July 78	1,550
North-China Ins. Co., 1875/77	1,000	£2,000	£600	.....	£542,051.14	30 June 78	£140	2 July 78	30
Do. 1878	500	\$2,500	\$500	\$262,132.10	\$21,091.40	31 Dec. 77	+ \$113.37	30 Sep. 78	1,700
Union In. Society of Canton ...	1,200	£350	£350	£334,144.48	£74,285.99	15 Apr. 78	* 6 %	11 July 78	720
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$74,133.82	.....	30 Dec. 76	* 6 %	1 Jan. 78	350 nominal.
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	2,000	\$1,000	\$250	\$632,302.00	\$260,157.58	30 Dec. 77	+ \$56.75 p.sh.	20 Feb. 78	900
China Fire In. Co., Limited ...	4,000	\$500	\$100	\$346,896.00	\$143,719.72	30 Dec. 77	+ 12 %	31 Dec. 77	230 Do.
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co... ..	2,150	£100	£100	£5,000.00	£557.91	30 Dec. 77	* 5 %	15 Aug. 78	152

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentrs.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1872	£ 28,700.00	£ 100.00	8 %	30th April & 31st Oct.	} £104½
Do. 1873	£ 21,000.00	£ 100.00	„	30th June & 31st Dec.	
Do. 1875	£ 42,800.00	£ 100.00	„	30th June & 31st Dec.	
Do. 1878	£ 24,000.00	£ 100.00	„	28th Feb. & 31st Aug.	
Lyceum Theatre Ordinary Debentures..	£ 17,000.00	£ 25.00	„	30th June.	£110
Do. Preference do.	£ 5,362.50	£ 37.50	5 %	31st Dec.	£ 10
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874	£ 627,615	£ 100	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£101
Do. do. 1877	£1,604,276	£ 100	8 %	28th Feb. & 31st Aug.	£107

* For half-year. + For year.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

WEATHER.—The weather since Thursday last has been variable, and considerable cold has prevailed, rendering fires essential, especially after sundown. Yesterday and to-day have been bright and sunny, and there is a prospect of fine weather for the Race holidays, which commence to-day.—The thermometer during the week has ranged from 45 to 71.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of a copy of a work entitled "**Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers**," edited by Mr. W. F. Mayers, Chinese Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation at Peking, and published at the *North-China Herald* office, Shanghai. Among various treaties given, it contains several which have been abrogated and others which have never been ratified but which are historically interesting. The volume is well printed and bound and reflects great credit on the publisher.—*Daily Press*.

We have received from the *North-China Herald* office a copy of the "**Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers**" just published by our contemporary. The book is convenient in size, neatly and strongly bound, and consists of no less than 230 pages. It contains all the **Treaties** that have been concluded between China and Foreign Powers, together with the greater portion of the various **Regulations** which have been successively agreed upon during the last sixteen years, and the recently concluded Treaty between Japan and Korea. Several instruments, though not now in force, find place in the work, as the French Treaty of 1844 and the United States Treaty of the same year; also, the Emigration Convention of 1866, and the Articles of Revision negotiated in 1869 by Sir Rutherford Alcock. This is, we believe, the only complete work of this kind that has been published, and it reflects considerable credit upon the enterprising office in question.—*China Mail*.

Many of our readers will have felt, at one time or another, the inconvenience of not having at hand for reference a copy of such and such a foreign Treaty with China. Several of these had never been printed. Others had been separately printed after negotiation, for semi-private use; others have seen the light in the columns of newspapers, and others again have been recorded in European publications such as the *British and Foreign State Papers*, compiled in London by Mr. Edward Hertslet, or in the *Archives Diplomatiques*, the corresponding Parisian work; but for all general purposes they have remained virtually inaccessible. Under the editorship of Mr. W. F. Mayers, all the several treaties and agreements which have been from time to time concluded to China with other nations, have now been collected and printed at the *North-China Herald* office in a convenient volume of some 250 pages. The large number of copies which have been subscribed for beforehand proves that the work will be especially welcome at Consulates, Legations, and Customs Offices, and we have no doubt it will be found a necessary book of reference by many private readers. There are some documents in it which will bye-and-bye call for especial notice. In the meantime we merely acknowledge the book, the subscription copies of which will, we understand, be distributed next week, as quickly as they can be prepared.—*N.-C. Herald*.

We acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the much needed volume, "**Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers, &c.**," which, under the editorship of Mr. W. F. Mayers, Chinese Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation at Peking, has been published at the *North-China Herald* office. Since 1860, the editor tells us, no attempt has been made to bring together the greater portion of the various **Treaties** and **Regulations** which have been successively agreed upon since that period. The object of the present volume is to supply in a form adapted for easy reference, all treaties and regulations actually in force, from the Nanking Treaty between England and China signed in 1842; and a complete compendium of all the provisos under which the international relations of the Chinese Government are conducted are now within reach. The whole are bound in a well-printed, compact volume, with an elaborate index of subjects, which will render it most useful. All foreigners in the far-east must have it, if they would know the precise terms of their residence and trading in China.—*Shanghai Courier & Evening Gazette*.

The Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers. Shanghai: The *North-China Herald* Office; London: Trübner and Co.—This work, to which we have already directed attention, will supply a want much felt at the present time. It collects together all the treaties between China and Foreign Powers, and thus makes it easy to refer to our actual position upon any given point, which it is impossible to ascertain without consulting other treaties as in some cases we are entitled to more than is expressed in our own treaty, by virtue of the most favoured nation clause. The present collection gives, in addition to the different treaties, the various regulations agreed upon from time to time; and has also Sir Rutherford Alcock's Convention of 1869, and the Chefoo Agreement, now under consideration of the Government.—*London and China Express*.

"**NORTH-CHINA HERALD**" OFFICE,
SHANGHAI, June 1878.